

## Lockerbie decision expected Sunday

TUNIS (R) — A lawyer advising two Libyans accused of the Lockerbie aircraft bombing said he will announce on Sunday the result of discussions on the possibility of their surrendering for trial in Scotland. "We advised them on what is better from the legal point of view," Libyan lawyer Ibrahim Legwell told Reuters by telephone from Tripoli. "They are the masters of the decision. I hope there will be positive steps." Mr. Legwell, head of an international defence team, would not say whether the lawyers advised the suspects to go to Scotland for trial. "We presented them our advice and we heard their remarks. We are now trying to crystallise that. We will make our conclusions public on Sunday," he said. The Libyans are accused of blowing up a Pan Am airliner over the Scottish village of Lockerbie in December 1988, killing 270 people. The Libyan government says the suspects, Abdul Baset Ali Mohammad Al Megrahi and Al Amin Khalifa Fhimah, are free to stand trial in Scotland if they wish. It has refused to set a date for their surrender.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
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## Little progress in Iraqi talks — U.N.

MANAMA (AFP) — Talks between Iraq and the United Nations on long-term weapons monitoring made little headway and there is no end in sight to the international embargo, U.N. disarmament chief Rolf Ekouss has said. Speaking in Bahrain late Friday following a week-long mission to Baghdad, Mr. Ekouss said "we made hardly any progress" in talks with the Iraqi government aimed at securing a deal on long-term weapons monitoring. The Swedish diplomat said Iraq has still not acknowledged U.N. Security Council Resolution 715, which sets down the conditions for long-term weapons monitoring. "It is still an important point which is threatening any progress," said Mr. Ekouss, who heads the U.N. Special Commission on Iraq (UNSCOM). "We cannot carry out our inspections in a fair and correct way" unless Baghdad accepts the resolution, he said. "My feeling is that they will not recognise this resolution (715), which they consider a very heavy load on them, unless they have assurances that the embargo will be lifted," he added.

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## PLO denies purge following plot

TUNIS (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on Saturday denied reports that it was conducting a purge of its internal security service following the discovery of a plot within its ranks to kill Chairman Yasser Arafat. Hakan Balawi, the PLO's representative in Tunis, told AFP that the reports were "totally untrue." The "allegations of arrests (of security men) and plots can only come from the imagination of those who want to sow discord and doubt," he said. Palestinian sources said Friday that the PLO was conducting a purge of its internal security forces amid dissent about peace with Israel and the discovery of an assassination plot against Mr. Arafat (see page 10).

## Turks hit rebel Kurds inside Iraq

ANKARA (R) — Turkish army commandos backed by warplanes attacked separatist Kurdish guerrillas inside northern Iraq for a second day Saturday, a military official said. "Air and land elements of the Turkish armed forces are presently engaged in a cross-border operation," the official told Reuters. The Cumhuriyet newspaper said 2,000 army commandos crossed the border south of Hakkari province hunting separatist Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) guerrillas. The official did not say how long the operation would last. "Apparently intelligence reports have shown a (rebel) concentration in the region," he added.

## Asif Nawaz was 'poisoned'

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — Preliminary autopsy reports by foreign experts suggest army chief General Asif Nawaz was poisoned to death in January, a lawyer representing the general's widow said Saturday. Chemical analysis of specimens from Gen. Nawaz' body showed the presence of 67 per cent arsenic in his body, barrister Shehzad Jehangir was quoted by the Nation newspaper as saying. Normal arsenic levels in a body did not exceed 0.03 per cent, Mr. Jehangir said. Gen. Nawaz' body was intact at the time of exhumation because the arsenic stopped it decomposing, according to doctor John Clark, one of the foreign experts who conducted the autopsy, Jehangir said. The final autopsy reports will be submitted to the Pakistani authorities by October 16, he said, and the names of those involved in the murder would be made public soon after. The general's death, attributed officially to a heart attack, became a political issue when Nuzhat Nawaz, the general's widow, blamed members of former Premier Nawaz Sharif's government for her husband's death.

## Kuwait: Iraqis fired at post

KUWAIT (AP) — Iraqi forces have fired on one of the emirate's border posts, the second attack in less than two weeks, Kuwait claimed Saturday. An Interior Ministry official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told the Associated Press that the Iraqis raked the Al Azmiah post with machine gun fire for 20 minutes Thursday night. He reported no casualties and said Kuwaitis returned the fire. The Iraqis continued sporadic firing in the area throughout the night, he said. Kuwait reported a similar incident at the Umm Sudair post Sept. 27 to the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission.

## Kuwait to sell Iraqi left-behinds

KUWAIT CITY — Kuwait plans to sell military equipment and munitions left by occupying Iraqi forces, its army chief of staff said in an interview published Saturday. General Ali Al Momen told the Kuwaiti daily Al Rai Al Am that the Defence Ministry was sorting through "hundreds of tonnes of munition" for eventual sale.

# Two Israeli hikers killed near Jericho

Combined agency dispatches

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM** — Unknown assailants shot dead two Israelis near Jericho on the occupied West Bank Saturday, military sources said.

The two were hiking at Wadi Qelt, just west of Jericho and some 20 kilometres from Jerusalem, when unidentified attackers opened fire on them, reports said.

The attackers fled after the incident. Wadi Qelt is a river bed in the desert that begins near Jerusalem and runs through Jericho about 40 kilometres away.

An army doctor at Wadi Qelt said at least two Israelis were shot and stabbed to death.

The assailants stole a car and escaped towards the West Bank town of Ramallah where the army in pursuit, security sources said.

A Reuters photographer in Wadi Qelt said a helicopter carried rescue workers to the area before dusk. They had to hike deep into the valley and after several hours had still not retrieved the bodies. As night fell, the army lit up the sky with flares and spotlights.

Military censors delayed this report for several hours.

The Israeli army said in an initial report: "Two residents whose identities have not been established were murdered today at 2:30 p.m. while they were hiking in the Wadi Qelt area."

"A guide from the nature authority hiking in the area reported it to security forces. The Israeli army and police closed the area and began widespread searches."

Israeli security sources said they believed the attack was carried out by opponents of the Gaza-Jericho first agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The agreement gives Palestinians limited self-rule starting in the Gaza Strip and Jericho. Several Palestinian factions oppose the agreement which they view as a sell-out.

Sources said Israeli intelligence had received information over the past few weeks that militants were planning a major attack near Jericho to demonstrate their opposition.

The stark beauty of Wadi Qelt — a river oasis running through the desert with monasteries built into stone mountain faces — draws many Israeli and foreign visitors including organised tours by the Israeli

Society for the Preservation of Nature.

The two apparently were the first two civilian victims of Palestinian violence since the signing of the Israel-PLO accord.

PLO chief Yasser Arafat has pledged to stop attacks on Israelis, but militant opponents of the peace agreement have vowed to step up the violence. The killings came only hours after a PLO faction claimed responsibility for an attempted sea infiltration into Israel. A guerrilla riding jet skis was killed off Lebanon (see story below).

The Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas claimed responsibility for three suicide attacks in the occupied territories since the accord was signed, and for the killing of an Israeli in Tel Aviv on Sept. 24.

In the latest attack on Oct. 4, which was also claimed by the Islamic Jihad, a Palestinian blew himself to pieces and wounded 30 Israelis when he rammed his car-bomb into a bus.

Saturday's attack took place just four days before autonomy officially starts to be implemented, with two PLO-Israeli committees due to meet in Egypt Wednesday (see page 10).

# Israelis foil PFLP sea-borne attack by high-speed jet skis

Combined agency dispatches

**NAQOURA, Lebanon** — Israeli gunboats thwarted a daring raid on northern Israel Saturday by blowing Arab guerrillas mounted on high-speed water scooters out of the sea.

At least one guerrilla, a Syrian, was killed in the failed, pre-dawn raid attempt, according to statements released by the Israeli army and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

However, U.N. officers at an observation post in South Lebanon's border village of Naqoura said they saw Israelis pull the bodies of two guerrillas and some debris from the water at 9:10 a.m. (0710 GMT).

Dr. George Habash's PFLP claimed responsibility for the attempted raid designed to protest the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) peace accord.

It said its three-man squad landed on the Israeli coast "after penetrating all enemy lines" and clashed with an Israeli army patrol near the northern resort town of Naharayim.

A statement, released in the southern provincial capital of Sidon, said the attack was launched to "underline the Palestinian people's determination to maintain the armed struggle until our right to statehood and self-determination is achieved."

Israel Television on Saturday showed footage of how the navy patrol boat fired on the guerrillas and he fell into the water. More shots on the boat followed.

The sequence was filmed as part of a new night vision equipment mounted on the patrol boat that enabled the navy to spot the guerrillas. Israeli army radio reported.

Israeli gunboats were seen patrolling the Mediterranean

off the South Lebanese coast throughout the day, apparently in search of further guerrilla bodies.

An Israeli military spokesman said a Dabur gunboat of the Israeli navy spotted a skier off the Lebanese coast and heading for an Israeli beach. It opened fire, destroying the jet ski and probably killing the guerrilla.

Lebanese security sources said two Israeli gunboats killed two guerrillas on jet skis, the marine equivalent of powerful motorbikes, about two off Ras Naqoura, the cape where the Israeli and Lebanese borders meet.

The jet skis were loaded with Kalashnikov rifles, pistols, hand grenades, knives and ammunition, they added.

The Lebanese sources said the Israelis recovered the two bodies and the two boats but the Israeli spokesman said he could not say for certain that even one guerrilla was killed.

# Aideed proposes truce, breaking Somali deadlock

Combined agency dispatches

**MOGADISHU** — Fugitive warlord Mohammed Farah Aideed said Saturday he was ready for a ceasefire and dialogue to find a peaceful settlement to the conflict in Somalia.

In a broadcast on his rebel radio station, General Aideed said his movement, the Somali National Alliance (SNA), agreed to end the conflict with U.S. forces and wanted to find a "just and peaceful" settlement of the political differences between the two sides.

President Bill Clinton's special envoy, Robert Oakley, flew to the Horn of Africa earlier in the day carrying a similar proposal.

Gen. Aideed, speaking over a hidden radio station, said he was proposing "a total ceasefire, not to attack the U.S. and U.N. forces" and wanted American and U.N. forces to stop attacks in return.

The turnaround in American policy was prompted by a battle five nights ago in which Gen. Aideed's rag-tag militia killed at least 15 U.S. soldiers and captured at least one.

The losses shattered public

confidence in America's Somali mission, which was launched last December to protect famine relief supplies from civil war looting but has turned into a guerrilla war with Gen. Aideed fought under the blue U.N. flag.

Mr. Clinton, while sending another 5,300 soldiers and nine warships to Somalia, promised this week to have the troops out by March 31.

Gen. Aideed, whose clan-based militia controls south Mogadishu and has clashed with the U.N. almost daily for months, was the rebel general largely responsible for the overthrow of dictator Mohammed Siad Barre in 1991.

He expected to become president but clan rivalries plunged the country into chaotic civil war.

He has been in hiding since June, when the U.N. accused him of ordering a massacre of 24 Pakistani peacekeepers.

Catching him and his top aides had become the focus of U.N. operations in Mogadishu, including lightning raids on suspected hideouts by American helicopter assault troops.

One such raid led to the costly Sunday evening-Monday morning battle in the capital's Bakshara market.

"The SNA is proposing a total ceasefire, not to attack the U.S. and U.N. forces," Gen. Aideed said in his brief broadcast.

"We also propose the U.S. government and U.N. stop any attacks and any of the terrorising of the Somali republic."

He said his militia would accept an investigation into the killing of the Pakistani peacekeepers on June 5. He sent condolences to the families of Somalis and U.N. peacekeepers killed in fighting.

Somalis should settle their own affairs, he said, ending his speech with the words: "Peace, justice, progress."

Mr. Oakley, a former Ambassador who was Washington's special envoy to Somalia before the U.N. took command of the mission in May, arrived in Addis Ababa, the capital of neighbouring Ethiopia, on Saturday.

Diplomats said Mr. Clinton had sent him to ask Ethiopian President Meles Zenawi to mediate an end to the crisis.



CROSSING PATHS: Benazir Bhutto's and Nawaz Sharif's motorcades cross during their last-ditch bid to win crucial provincial elections in the Punjab. Vote counting starts late Saturday in Lahore Saturday. Both former premiers drove and results were expected Sunday (AFP photo)

# PCC expected to produce new 'authority' for self-rule

Israeli rejection of provisional government, Palestinian insistence on polls lead to new body

By Lami K. Andoni  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A top-level Palestinian body incorporating members from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and representatives from the occupied territories will be formed to supervise negotiations with Israel and the process of transfer of responsibilities from the Israeli administration to the Palestinians, according to Palestinian officials in Tunis and Amman.

The "Palestinian authority," as the new body will be called, will effectively be the new joint Palestinian leadership that serves as a link between Palestinians in the territories and the diaspora without dissolving the PLO throughout the interim five-year self-rule period.

The Palestinian "authority" will serve as the higher source of reference for the Palestinian council, scheduled to be elected by July, and the Palestinians in the diaspora.

PLO officials in Amman and Tunis said the authority will guarantee that the autonomy arrangements will not divide the Palestinians inside the occupied territories from the Palestinians in the diaspora and will ensure the continuation of the struggle for the attainment of all the national Palestinian rights that are not addressed in the Israel-PLO accord.

"It will provide the necessary physical linkage as well

as the necessary historical link of the different stages of the struggle," a Palestinian official said.

The concept of a new higher authority is the first of a series of changes that the PLO will embrace to face the new era heralded by the Israel-PLO accord on limited Palestinian autonomy.

The idea of forming a joint higher authority prevailed after PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's proposal to set up a provisional Palestinian government was practically turned down by the U.S. and Israel, the officials said.

"The Americans, the Israelis and other parties involved did not support the idea of a provisional Palestinian government," said a PLO official who has been attending the meetings in Tunis.

The idea of a provisional government has been strongly promoted by Mr. Arafat but has been dismissed by other officials for fear that it implied the postponement of putting off elections for a Palestinian autonomy council that should be held by next July in accordance with the Israel-PLO accord.

"The discussions have been focused on the Palestinian authority rather than on the provisional government which was not favoured by many, especially representatives of the Palestinians from inside the territories," said one official.

Mr. Arafat is believed to have been seeking the forma-

tion of a provisional government to lay the basis for a future leadership for a Palestinian state and to assert his control throughout the interim period.

But some representatives from the occupied territories feared that it would lead to the assertion of the control of "outside over the inside" at the expense of broader and equal power-sharing.

These concerns were reinforced as some of Mr. Arafat's close confidants started floating the idea of postponing or cancelling the elections during the interim period.

"That would have been a real blow to building a genuine national authority in the future Palestinian entity," said a prominent Palestinian from the occupied territories on condition of anonymity.

There were also suggestions that the PLO Executive Committee remains the authority in charge of the Palestinian autonomy during the interim period, or a higher body to chart guidelines for the elected Palestinian council. These suggestions were later dismissed in favour of a Palestinian authority.

An official endorsement of the concept of the authority is expected to be announced in Tunis after a meeting Sunday of the Palestine National Council, but the members of the proposed body will be decided in further discussions.

# Jordan rejects Israeli ruling on Haram

## Al Sharif

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Saturday strongly denounced an Israeli court ruling on the status of the holy shrines, including the Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, in Jerusalem, as an infringement on Arab and Muslim legal and historic rights and said the restoration of the holy shrines would go ahead as scheduled.

The denunciation was contained in a note distributed by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Salam Al Abbadi to the ambassadors of Arab and Islamic countries at a meeting held in his office Saturday.

The Israeli high court ruled Sept. 23, 1993, that Al Haram Al Sharif — which embodies the Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock — is part of the "land of Israel" and hence subject to Israeli laws and regulations concerning construction work, archaeology and free access of places of worship, the note said.

"By this ruling, the court aims to stop the restoration and refurbishing work currently going on at Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock conducted by a Jordanian committee according to a 1954 Jordanian law," the note said.

"The court ruling has prompted the so-called 'Temple Mount Faithful' to demand that the same court issue an order stopping the reconstruction work at Al Haram Al Sharif," it added.

"The ruling is a flagrant encroachment on the rights of Muslims and an insult to and provocation of their feeling and something that contradicts the Israeli authorities' claims about (their desire for) peace," the note said.

While strongly condemning this attitude and the court ruling, Jordan calls on the world community to take proper and speedy action to stop Israel's practices, bearing in mind that the current reconstruction work, conducted by the Department of Awqaf in Jerusalem under the guidance of the special committee in Amman, is taking place on Islamic holy land sites at preserving holy shrines and their important and historic and religious heritage," it said.

Jordan will disregard the ruling and go ahead with the reconstruction programme according to plan, the note affirmed.

According to the note, the work on the restoration of the shrines, financed by His Majesty King Hussein, is due to be completed in March.

Following the meeting with the ambassadors, Dr. Abbadi said in a statement that the Council of Ministers had decided to form a ministerial committee to work out a comprehensive plan to deal with the issue.

The meeting with the envoys, he said, will be followed by other steps aimed at urging the Arab and Islamic countries to "shoulder their responsibilities at this critical stage in their history."

The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs is drawing up a legal document which would support the Arab and Islamic rights in the Holy City, he added.

He said that King Hussein was giving serious attention to the issue as it is of concern not only to Jordan but also to all Arab and Islamic countries.

The minister said the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs had instructed the Higher Islamic Council in Jerusalem to ignore the Israeli court ruling and to take measures towards providing more protection and increasing the number of guards of Al Haram Al Sharif.

# 70% of exporters' profits exempted from tax; JPMC signs \$119m deal

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government on Saturday decided to exempt to 70 per cent of exporters' net profits from income tax, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

Petra said the Cabinet decision was meant as a new incentive for exporters.

In an interview with Jordan Television, Minister of Finance Sami Gammo said the exemption would encourage investors and boost the Kingdom's foreign currency earnings.

He said although the move would reduce the treasury's earnings from income tax it would nevertheless have positive results in terms of foreign exchange. He said that by encouraging investment, the move would help reduce unemployment.

The Cabinet decision, Petra said, did not apply to fertiliser, phosphate or potash exports. It also excluded exports based on commercial protocols or payment of foreign loans.

In a related development, the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) signed a \$119 million deal with Indian and French companies to set a 220,000-tonne phosphoric acid plant at Shidiya, Petra reported.

It quoted the company's director general, Sameh Madani, as saying the plant would use 800,000 tonnes of rock phosphates and that the contract with the Indian and French companies would last for 10 years during which the manufacturers would buy the Jordanian phosphate at prevailing market prices in India.

Mr. Madani said the project would be financed by a consortium of international, European and French banks led by the Arab Bank. He said the loans will total \$95 million.

Mr. Madani said the plant will start production in 1996 and expected to earn Jordan \$70 million annually as of the third year of production. He said the project will provide 350 job opportunities.



## PLO plans to build safeguards against government corruption

AMMAN (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), sensitive to charges that it lacks financial accountability, will build safeguards against corruption into Palestinian government in the Gaza Strip and West Bank, officials said.

The PLO, whose annual budget is controlled by a handful of officials close to Chairman Yasser Arafat, would institutionalise procedures for the first time to keep track of where the money was going, they added.

"There is going to be an auditing body to supervise projects and administration alongside PEDRA in order to minimise corruption," PLO economic chief Ahmad Qurieh told Reuters in an interview.

The Palestine Emergency Development Reconstruction Authority (PEDRA) is the cornerstone of interim Palestinian self-rule, agreed in last month's historic Israel-PLO peace deal.

It will coordinate development of the Israeli-occupied territories with foreign donors and act as the World Bank's partner in supervising projects in the West Bank and Gaza.

Mr. Qurieh said every Palestinian institution would have its own auditing department to monitor finances.

He also said foreign aid would be channelled directly to infrastructure projects, partly to address some international donors' objections to paying cash directly to the PLO.

He said the European Community and the United States disagreed over the way major donors should coordinate donations with the Palestinians, but said the PLO must be actively involved in whatever mechanism was established.

PLO officials and Palestinian peace delegates said the organisation, which has acted both as a revolutionary movement and as a government-in-exile, was in the process of trying to ensure that new jobs were awarded on merit.

"It will be very difficult to face the future with the old tools and mentalities," said Hanan Ashrawi, spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation to Middle East peace talks and a champion of calls for more democracy in the PLO.

"This is a period of making use of competent, qualified people and putting the right person in the right job."

PLO officials said Mr. Arafat has been consulting Palestinian experts on the best way to structure an emerging government inside the territories.

Many Palestinians fear the PLO will act insensitively within the territories, or that Palestinian self-government will be dominated entirely by Mr. Arafat and his mainstream Fatah faction.

"It is not easy for the PLO to make the rapid transition from the traveller's mentality and start for the first time to think of how to rule its own territory," said senior peace delegate Saeb Erekat.

### PLO may buy mobile homes

Hundreds of mobile homes that Israel put up in a Jewish settlement campaign in the occupied territories may be sold to the PLO to house guerrillas being trained as future Palestinian policemen.

An Israeli-Arab businessman said on Friday he was about to wrap up a deal with the Israeli housing ministry by buying 500 new mobile homes which he said the PLO would erect in Jericho.

The businessman, who declined to be identified, said the PLO also wanted to buy additional mobile homes that had been briefly used by Israelis in the territories.

The housing ministry confirmed that a private Palestinian enterprise had approached it and said it was looking into the request.

Under the Israeli-PLO agreement on self-rule, signed on Sept. 13, the PLO will bring in members of the Palestine Liberation Army to police the occupied territories during a five-year period of limited self-rule.

The mobile homes, part of a drive by hawkish former Housing Minister Ariel Sharon to settle thousands of Jews in the occupied territories, have been in storage since Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's Labour Party came to power in July 1992 and curbed settlement building.



PROUD FLAG: The Palestinian football team carries the Palestinian flag prior to the game Friday. The French team led by Michel Platini carried the French flag prior to the game. Some 15,000 people attended a JFP photo.

## Rabin seeks to stop Chinese arms sales

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Yitzhak Rabin, reaping the dividends of the autonomy deal with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), goes for an Israeli premier on Sunday seeking to halt missile sales to Syria and Iran and to boost trade.

"I can go to China now with my mind at rest," Mr. Rabin said this week after laying the foundations for implementing the self-rule scheme in talks with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat on Wednesday.

"I don't expect sensational results from the trip," Mr. Rabin told journalists, even though it is the first since the two countries reopened diplomatic relations on Jan. 24, 1992.

Mr. Rabin admitted Israeli arms sales to China had fallen off in recent years. The figures are a state secret.

Israeli officials say fears of missile exports to Tehran and Damascus are at the top of Mr. Rabin's list for talks with the Chinese prime minister, president and minister of defence.

Mr. Rabin, who is also minister of defence, told reporters he would warn of the dangers he believes Islamic fundamentalism, and particularly the Iranians, pose to peace.

"I know our limits, but I would like to reach an understanding with the Chinese about the threats in the Middle East, not only those faced by Israel but all the world."

The radical Islamic wave led by Iran is sweeping the whole area from Algeria — to Sudan, Lebanon and through to the Palestinians. This threat has to be seen from a broad perspective," Mr. Rabin said.

One side explained that if as a by-product China halted arms sales, the visit would be a success.

The arms issue dominated a visit last May by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres as well as a trip to occupied Jerusalem in September 1992 by his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen.

Mr. Peres returned saying Peking had promised to stop missile sales to warring Middle East countries, including Syria, and not to sell weapons which endanger Israel's security.

But he did not give any detailed explanation and the Chinese have not made clear statements. During Mr. Qian's visit the Israelis thought they had won a cast-iron pledge to stop missile sales, but the Chinese later explained that there had been a translation error.

China sold missiles to Iran and Syria in the 1980s and Israel defence experts fear exports could resume with more advanced weaponry.

In the past Israel has also

voiced concern over reports that China might sell nuclear reactors to Iran and other countries in the region.

Mr. Rabin's spokesman Gad Ben Ari stressed the economic aspects of the five-day tour.

"The visit is important. China is a giant in Asia and a very big market," he told AFP. "There is a lot we can do together for the benefit of both countries in areas like agriculture, trade and commerce, water, energy and high technology."

"It will mark a turning-point in the relationship between the two countries," Mr. Ben Ari predicted.

Mr. Rabin will initial an aviation agreement to enable the Israeli carrier El Al, which began weekly charter services to the Chinese capital a year ago, to develop Peking as a hub for regional flights.

He will also sign an accord for Israel's state-run Dead Sea Industries to build a \$470-million potash plant in Shanghai province on the border with Tibet.

The Chinese government will own 56.6 per cent and Dead Sea Industries 33.3 per cent.

Mr. Rabin is due to give a keynote speech on the Middle East situation in Shanghai before flying back to Tel Aviv on Oct. 15.

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## Stakes are high in Somalia

By Carol Giacomo

WASHINGTON — For the United States, and possibly for the rest of the world, much more is at stake in Somalia than Somalia.

President Bill Clinton's handling of a humanitarian mission that has run amok is casting long shadows on the international stage, laying markers for U.S. leadership in the post-cold war world and raising questions about expanded U.N. peacekeeping.

With Somalia as an example, the Pentagon is reported to be having second thoughts about a commitment to deploy American troops as part of a U.N. peacekeeping force in Haiti, another potentially dangerous, unpredictable and hostile environment.

Similarly, a U.S. pledge to provide half the 50,000 peacekeepers needed to implement a Bosnia peace agreement, if and when one ever comes, had already made Congress and the administration anxious. Now, it seems even harder to fulfil.

"The role of the United Nations in peacekeeping is at a critical crossroads," senior staff of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations wrote in a recently released report.

"As the U.N. 'Blue Helmets' come under increasing fire, and sometimes fire back, as the costs of each new operation mount and the number of operations proliferate, as the United Nations' failures in peacekeeping seem to outweigh their successes, many are calling into question whether or not the U.N. should continue this function," they said.

How the United States responds in these instances will be critical. It is a widely held view that the U.N. can only succeed in peacekeeping with strong American support.

Foreign policy was not much discussed in the 1992 presidential campaign, arguably the lack of consensus

now on Somalia is partly a result of that paucity of debate.

To the extent such issues were explored, Mr. Clinton, seeking to set a new tone, espoused what became known as an assertive multilateralism and a heavier reliance on the U.N. to create a new world order from the ashes of the East-West conflict.

After eight months in office, rising U.S. and other casualties in Somalia have tempered that view.

Mr. Clinton now sees multilateralism as one tool in his foreign policy arsenal, has retreated from putting U.S. troops in broad circumstances under U.N. command, has set tough conditions for U.S. involvement in peacekeeping, and asserted the U.N. must be able to stay out of certain missions.

Somalia is the prototype of a U.N. shift to aggressive post-cold war peacekeeping, not just more passive peacekeeping. It began last December when then-President George Bush sent 28,000 U.S. troops into the East African country to stop the starvation that resulted from severe famine and civil war.

Mr. Clinton endorsed the mission, which was supposed to end once the environment was secure for relief efforts. But while Washington gave control of the operation to the U.N. in May and withdrew most of its troops, it remained deeply involved.

After 24 Pakistani peacekeepers were killed in June, allegedly by allies of renegade warlord Mohammed Farah Aideded, the U.N. Security Council, with U.S. support, expanded the rules of engagement to allow attacks on Gen. Aideded's forces.

Increasingly the focus became capturing Gen. Aideded, on whom the U.N. put a \$25,000 bounty, and elite U.S. troops were airlifted in for the task.

"Our own credibility with friends and allies would be severely damaged. Our leadership in world affairs would be undermined...and all around the world, aggressors, thugs and terrorists will conclude that the best way to get us to change our policies is to kill our people."

But the New York Times highlighted the strength of the opponents who continue to demand a prompt exit, arguing:

"The cost of prolonging the ordeal for six months could prove high indeed — in American lives, in American support for peacekeeping activities and in Mr. Clinton's capacity to focus his political energies on domestic reform."

It is not clear why the administration went along with the altered mission and let the focus on a political solution in Somalia slide.

Some experts say the U.N. had too free a hand in defining Somalia policy.

There are also complaints that U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali has become obsessed with Gen. Aideded, that the U.N. is ill-equipped to command peacekeeping and that the armies of many U.N.-member countries are not up to the task.

In the past two weeks when U.S. deaths in Somalia mounted, congressional calls for a quick withdrawal — or at least a cogent argument for why the national interest justified American troops being killed — reached a crescendo.

Mr. Clinton and his foreign policy team took days to answer but finally, the president on Thursday made a case that many found compelling:

"I am proposing this plan because it will let us finish leaving Somalia on our own terms...for if we were to leave today...within months, Somali children again would be dying in the streets."

"Our own credibility with friends and allies would be severely damaged. Our leadership in world affairs would be undermined...and all around the world, aggressors, thugs and terrorists will conclude that the best way to get us to change our policies is to kill our people."

But the New York Times highlighted the strength of the opponents who continue to demand a prompt exit, arguing:

"The cost of prolonging the ordeal for six months could prove high indeed — in American lives, in American support for peacekeeping activities and in Mr. Clinton's capacity to focus his political energies on domestic reform."

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## I faced death thrice — captive pilot

LONDON (AFP) — Enraged Operation Avigation Regiment, based at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, which usually works with crack forces like the Rangers and Green Berets, and specialises in night missions.

"We lay there on the ground beside the aircraft and I saw people coming out of the tent trying to get to us. I kept shooting at them, but then I ran out of ammunition."

"There was a large group of people. They grouped together on the other side of the aircraft, shouting. Then I heard the other crew saying, 'I'm hit. The people got to me and started to hit me.'"

"They held me up in the air. Some people would break through the crowd and hit me. But there were other people shouting at them. It seemed as if they wanted them to stop the beating."

After 10 minutes he was put in a truck and driven away to a house and left for 30 minutes. He was then taken to a second house where a Somali cameraman filmed him.

"They chained me up in a room. In the morning somebody came. I saw the door open and the barrel of a gun — I think it was an AK-47 — come round the door. I didn't see the gunman. He opened

fire and then disappeared. The bullets hit the floor and I was hit by shrapnel which I had to pull out of my arm."

That night he was unchained and moved to another house. "As they were moving me I thought I was going to be killed. On the way there we stopped at roadblocks where the people who were taking me had to explain to the gunmen what was going on."

"They left me in the car for about an hour and I thought: This is it. But instead they brought me here," he said.

Each of the three mornings he has spent at the house, he has been visited by a doctor to look at his broken right leg, facial injuries and bullet wounds.

"I have asked them a lot about what they intend to do with me. Initially they said they were trying to work a deal in exchange for 24 of their people who are held."

"I heard on the radio that won't happen. It's not what I want to hear. But I understand it. The SNA (Gen. Aideded's Somali National Alliance) want to show the world that they are not barbarians."

"My biggest fear is that the people living around this part of town will find out that I'm here and try to kill me."

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Arafat to visit France this month

PARIS (AFP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat said Friday he would visit France "around the 21st or 22nd of October." During a radio debate broadcast here, the PLO chief said he had "a great many things to tell President François Mitterrand...I expect a lot from him...her is a major head of state who has a clear view of the problems of the Middle East." The visit would be the first to France since the Israeli-PLO autonomy accord signed in Washington last month. An earlier official visit by Mr. Arafat to Paris in May 1989 provoked sharp reactions in France, particularly among the Jewish community. PLO sources in Tunis meanwhile said that Mr. Arafat would be in France on Oct. 20 and 21 at the invitation of the French government. They said they did not know whether the visit would be part of a European tour by the PLO leader, Mr. Arafat having also received invitations from other European capitals, notably London and Bonn. The tour had originally been slated for September but was put off due to Mr. Arafat's heavy workload on issues relating to the autonomy accord.

### Canada probes charges against Aideded wife

OTTAWA (AP) — The Canadian government is investigating charges that the wife of Somali warlord Mohammed Farah Aideded may have violated immigration rules by returning to her homeland and continuing to get welfare while she was there. Brian McNis, a spokesman for the Public Security Department, said that allegations of "immigration irregularities" were raised this week about Khadija Gurhan, who came to Canada about four years ago. Ms. Gurhan, who has four children, filed for refugee status in Canada, claiming she feared persecution if forced to return to Somalia. She was granted permanent resident status about a year ago after being recognised as a political refugee. She has been receiving welfare. Mr. McNis said there are allegations Ms. Gurhan, 35, returned to Somalia for a five-month visit despite her claim that she feared persecution. The complaints also suggest she continued to receive welfare payments from Canada while in Mogadishu. If the charges are substantiated, they could provide grounds for deportation, despite her permanent resident status, Mr. McNis said. Ms. Gurhan married General Aideded in 1984 and for the next four years they lived in India, where her husband was his country's ambassador. In 1989, Gen. Aideded joined forces with rebels that eventually toppled dictator Mohammed Siad Barre, whose ouster plunged Somalia into civil war.

### U.N. discloses use of Saudi base for U2 plane

MANAMA (R) — The United Nations disclosed on Friday that it uses a base in Saudi Arabia for its U2 spyplane activity over Iraq. Rolf Ekeus, head of the U.N. special commission ensuring that Iraq's weapons of mass destruction are scrapped and not revived, said that in the coming week he would visit a base in Saudi Arabia which hosts the U2. Mr. Ekeus said the commission sent three or four U2 missions over Iraq each week. For most of logistics in flying inspection teams in and out of Iraq the special commission uses Bahrain which lies off the Saudi coast.

### Britain to host Clerides-Denktaş lunch

NICOSIA (R) — Britain said Friday its Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd would host a lunch for Cypriot President Glafos Clerides and Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş on the eve of the Commonwealth summit in Cyprus. The British high commission (embassy) said the U.N. Deputy Special Representative in Cyprus Costas Feissel would also attend the lunch, to be given at the Ledra Palace hotel in the Nicosia buffer zone on Oct. 20. It will be the first meeting between Mr. Clerides, who heads the Greek-Cypriot community and Mr. Denktaş, since they broke off U.N.-sponsored New York talks in June on reuniting Cyprus as a federation. Mr. Hurd will be in Cyprus for the Commonwealth heads of government meeting which begins on Oct. 21. Britain's Queen Elizabeth, who heads the Commonwealth, and Prime Minister John Major will also be in Cyprus for the summit. Mr. Hurd will leave Cyprus for Syria on Oct. 22, the high commission said. The Commonwealth embraces Britain and 49 of its former colonies.

### 20 killed in Turkey's Kurdish violence

ANKARA (R) — Kurdish guerrillas killed more than 20 people in southeast Turkey, four of them schoolteachers in one village, security officials said. Rebels of the Kurdistan Labour Party (PKK) gunned down five primary school teachers in Pirincik village of tunceli province, killing four and seriously wounding one on Thursday night. Eight soldiers, four village guards and a woman died in clashes with guerrillas who raided two villages and a military post near Catak town, officials told Anatolia news agency. Three children playing with a live rocket died when it exploded on Friday in Senoba village, Siirt province. The rocket was believed to have been left over from fighting between the separatist PKK and Turkish troops. PKK rebels killed a man and his two sons and burnt down their home in the highlands of Diyarbakir province. Guamen killed a pharmacist in Silvan town on Friday.

### Germany and Iran agree to fight terrorism

BONN (AP) — Iran's intelligence minister has paid a little-publicised visit to Germany and the two sides have agreed to step up cooperation in fighting international terrorism, a newspaper reported Friday. The newspaper Die Welt said the minister, Ali Fallahian, held talks Wednesday and Thursday with chiefs of Germany's intelligence and domestic security services, and Bernd Schmiedbauer, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's top intelligence aide. Mr. Fallahian spoke to a small group of reporters late Thursday in Bonn and told them Germany and Iran will step up their cooperation in fighting international terrorism and drug smuggling, Die Welt said.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 7311-14

PROGRAMME TWO  
17:30 Film "Pis Au Pige"  
18:00 News in French  
18:15 Penetriser  
19:30 News in Hebrew  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Step By Step  
21:10 News in English  
22:00 Thirty something  
22:30 News in English  
23:10 Ways of Making You Think  
23:10 Golden Girls

### PRAYER TIMES

04:14 Fajr  
05:31 (Sunrise) Dhuha  
11:23 Dhuhr  
14:41 Asr  
17:15 Maghrib  
18:32 Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetleth, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 832785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 824590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 673440  
De La Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Transfiguration Church Tel. 622360  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 625411

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628433  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 775261  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751  
Assyrian International Church Tel. 652526  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 624328  
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932  
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691.

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A drop in temperatures is expected with clouds appearing at different altitudes and winds will be westerly light to moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.  
Amman ..... 14 / 27  
Aqaba ..... 19 / 32  
Deserts ..... 12 / 29  
Jordan Valley ..... 20 / 33

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 24.6, Aqaba 32.9, Humidity readings: Amman 23 per cent, Aqaba 34 per cent.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY  
AMMAN:  
Dr. Hisham Kan'an ..... 790276  
Dr. Walid Al Masri ..... 675485  
Dr. Sa'ad Ali ..... 780280  
Dr. Mohammad Shugair ..... 623693  
First pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdous pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asma pharmacy ..... 637055  
Nasrallah pharmacy ..... 626072  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 649495  
Shmiciani pharmacy ..... 637660  
Najib pharmacy ..... 847632

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre ..... 637111  
Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate ..... 630341  
Rescue ..... 199  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 891228  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department ..... 630321  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage ..... 897467  
Complaints ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality ..... 787111  
Complaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone Repairs ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power Company ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information ..... 05-53200

### AMMAN:

Dr. Farah Hamdan ..... 987725  
Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 985417

### IRBID:

Dr. Mohammad Al Zu'bi ..... (—)  
Alqods pharmacy ..... (—)

### ZARQA:

Dr. Farah Hamdan ..... 987725  
Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 985417

### QUEEN ALIA INTL. AIRPORT..... 05-53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/22  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. .... 644281/6  
Akhil Maternity, J. Amn. .... 642411/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642422  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shmiciani ..... 664171/4  
Shmiciani Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 845845  
Al-Mustashfi Hospital ..... 667227/9  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 665177/7  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Italian, Al-Muhajireen ..... 777101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 775111/25  
Army, Marka ..... 891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 502240/50  
Amal Hospital ..... 674135  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)905660  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732  
Al Hilam Modern Hospital ..... (09) 999990  
IRBID:  
Princess Basma Hospital ..... (02)275555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (02)272775  
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital ..... (02)247100  
AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314111





Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Saturday addresses a health conference along with Health Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas, WHO representative Hussein Al Jazairi and NHF President In'am Mufti (Petra photo)

## Government to introduce legislation on national health plan — Majali

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government will introduce legislation designed to provide health insurance to all Jordanian citizens, and will improve basic health services in order to make them more efficient and less expensive, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali announced Saturday.

Under the projected scheme, the beneficiaries of the health insurance will become partners in covering the cost of these services and in monitoring the level of services and expenditures involved, said the prime minister in an address at the opening of a three-day health conference at the Philadelphia Hotel in Amman.

The new health plans will give impetus to investments in the health sector and aim to reduce the burdens of medical costs on individuals, the state and related organisations, added Dr. Majali.

Organised by the World Health Organisation (WHO), in cooperation with Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), the meeting, entitled "Inter-country Consultation on Accelerating the Basic Minimum Needs Approach in the Eastern Mediterranean Region," is attended by 10 Arab and foreign countries including Jordan.

The Jordanian experiment in medical services and those of the participating nations will be reviewed during the three-day parley.

Jordan is focusing on health, education, the environment, employment and local government — all of which constitute an integral sector of the basic services for society, added the Prime Minister.

Referring to Jordan's achievements in these areas, Dr. Majali said that 92 per cent of Jordanians are covered by health services and there is one doctor for every 860 citizens. Public spending on health services rose to six per cent of the Gross National Product (GNP) in 1990, he added.

Turning to other services for Jordanians, Dr. Majali noted that 92 per cent of households have running water, and 95 per cent of all towns and population centres have electricity.

He said that compulsory education covers 96 per cent of the children in various governorates and 90 per cent of the towns and settlements are served by road networks.

Dr. Majali said that providing citizens with proper health care should be among the priorities in ensuring human rights.

He said that many areas in the developing countries still lack the means to provide such services in the rural and poor regions, and therefore non-governmental institutions and world and local organisations have a duty to extend a helping hand in this regard.

Dr. Majali thanked NHF and the WHO for organising the meeting and for their own endeavours to promote health services.

Health Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas addressed the gathering saying that accelerating basic minimum needs to the community aims primarily at solving health issues of the small, poor and remote communities.

Dr. Malhas voiced appreciation for Her Majesty Queen Noor's continued support for projects designed to improve the quality of life in villages and rural areas of Jordan, citing the projects carried out through the NHF in Sweimeh, Hashemieh, Al Bassa, Beer Haddad, Qureqra, Deir Al Khaf and Al Qunieh.

Also addressing the conference, NHF President In'am Mufti said the foundation's projects aim at improving the life of the rural families, focusing mainly on women and children and revitalising education and culture to help raise the standard of living in the local communities.

WHO representative Hussein Al Jazairi thanked the Jordanian government for hosting the meeting which, he said, is a good opportunity for scrutinising the basic needs of society.

About 30 participants from Jordan, Egypt, Morocco, Sudan, Yemen, Palestine, Tunisia, Somalia, Iran and Thailand are taking part in the conference.

## CBJ seeks Arab interests before clearing way for Jordanian banks to reopen in occupied lands

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) has not yet given clearance to Jordanian banks to resume their operations in the occupied territories and seeks to ensure that Arab interests are protected from Israeli domination, senior officials said Saturday.

To a large extent, discussions held between the CBJ and commercial banks seeking to restart business in the occupied territories went into limbo immediately after the dramatic announcement of an autonomy agreement between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel in late August.

Since then, however, Jordan and the PLO have worked out a broad framework for economic cooperation. Under a PLO proposal, the CBJ will supervise all commercial banks in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, where the Jordanian dinar will also continue to be the main currency in circulation, officials said.

"Negotiations are continuing, and only after we complete them we can approve the actual resumption of Jordanian commercial banks' operations in the occupied territories," said a senior official.

The official declined to go into details, but other sources said Israel was insisting on certain preconditions and Jordan was resisting them. In addition, the finer details of the Jordan-PLO agreement have not been finalised, they said.

Despite the Jordanian-Palestinian framework for economic cooperation, Israel is believed to be pressing its push to retain a large measure of control of commercial bank activities in the occupied territories and demanding sizeable amounts of deposits in dollars with the Israeli central bank from any commercial bank which starts operation in the occupied territories.

Several Jordanian banks have expressed interest in resuming operations in the occupied territories. The operations were suspended and branches closed down when Israel seized the territories in the 1967 war (see page 7).

Jack Qattan, deputy general manager of the Jordan National Bank, said his bank was keeping all options open.

"We are awaiting Central Bank advice on how to proceed," Dr. Qattan told the Jordan Times. "We don't know how the actual procedures will be; whether our old licences (valid when Israel occupied the territory in 1967) will be renewed or new licences will be issued,

and what will be the rules and regulations."

The Jordan National Bank had branches in Ramallah, Hebron and Jerusalem in 1967 and was poised to open a branch in Bethlehem when Israel occupied the West Bank.

"We would prefer to reopen the three we had in the initial stages," Dr. Qattan said.

Israel, which permitted another Jordanian bank to reopen in the West Bank in 1986, was known to be resisting the reopening of branches in Jerusalem, which it claims as its "eternal and indivisible capital."

Under the Israel-PLO autonomy agreement signed on Sept. 13, Palestinians of Jerusalem could run for seats as well as vote in elections for a Palestinian self-rule authority. It was a climb-down from an earlier Israeli refusal to allow them to take part in the elections. It was not immediately known whether this also extended to banking operations in Jerusalem.

Several Jordanian banks were refusing an Israeli offer to allow the reopening of their branches everywhere except Jerusalem. They argued that if they accept the Israeli offer it would be a political concession to the occupation authorities' claim to the Holy City.

According to sources quoted by Reuters, Israel was rejecting a Jordanian demand that banks in the occupied territories be permitted to transfer up to 50 per cent of their deposits for investment in Jordan.

Israel is ready to allow only 10 per cent, the sources said, adding that the two sides appeared to be reaching a compromise.

Most of the banks which are seeking to reopen in the West Bank had been in direct or indirect touch with the Israeli occupation authorities for technical talks and are awaiting the Central Bank of Jordan to give them the green light.

However, senior officials said, it was not a purely CBJ affair. "We have to work in close coordination with the Palestinian leadership," said one official, in an apparent reference to a proposal that a Palestinian monetary authority be set up and be represented in the CBJ decision-making process.

The proposal was presented in broad terms during a visit to Amman two weeks ago by Ahmad Qurieh, head of Samed, the PLO's economy department, who negotiated the autonomy accord with Israel in secret talks held in Oslo, Norway.

"There are many fine details to be worked out," said the official. "We simply can-

not attach a timeframe as to when permissions could be granted to banks to reopen in the West Bank."

According to Samir Abdullah, a member of the Palestinian peace negotiating team and an economist at Al Najah University in Nablus, the Central Bank of Jordan is mandated to carry out the functions of a Palestinian Central Bank.

"There will be a Palestinian-Jordanian committee in charge of running and regulating the monetary affairs during the self-rule," Dr. Abdullah said last week. "Its main headquarters will be in Amman and there will be a branch in the West Bank."

Dr. Abdullah said a proposal to revive the Palestinian pound was dropped because the Palestinians did not have the monetary base to support it.

But the Palestinian authority plans to issue bonds in Jordanian dinars, he said.

Samir Huleileh, another member of the Palestinian economic team, said the link-up with Jordan was "not a hindrance to Palestinian economic independence."

"The objective of the agreement with Jordan is to give assurances to the Jordanians that we are economic partners and not adversaries," he said.

## Meeting stresses coordination in disaster management efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — Close coordination between government agencies, national voluntary and international organisations operating in Jordan during the Gulf crisis greatly reduced the magnitude of the disaster suffered by hundreds of thousands of evacuees who fled to Jordan, following Iraq's Aug. 1990 invasion of Kuwait, according to Safwan Touqan, secretary general of the Ministry of Planning.

Such cooperation was manifested in the provision of basic humanitarian services to the evacuees, said Dr. Touqan in an address at the opening of a five-day workshop on disaster management.

Organised by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the workshop plans to discuss improving readiness to deal with the consequences of disasters, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, involving non-governmental and international organisations in relief efforts, encouraging voluntary work in times of disaster and other related issues.

Dr. Touqan called for upgrading plans to deal with emergency situations and to monitor looming dangers in order to take precautionary measures in advance, including organising prompt rescue operations and the distribution of relief supplies.

Rafik Shukor, U.N. deputy resident representative in Amman, outlined United Nations agencies' efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to countries hit by conflicts and natural disasters like earthquakes/floods and epidemics.

## Ministry defines candidate document requirements

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Interior Saturday issued a communique defining eight requirements that candidates in the Nov. 8 parliamentary elections must meet in accordance with Article 18 of the 1986 Election Law and its amendments.

According to the communique, the candidates have to produce the following:

1. Certification that the candidate has held Jordanian citizenship for the last 10 years.
2. An affidavit that the candidate does not hold citizenship in any other country and can claim foreign protection.
3. Certification that the candidate is officially registered in the voters list.
4. Any official document certifying that the candidate is over 30 years of age.
5. Certification that the candidate has not been convicted and sentenced to serve a prison term exceeding one year for a non-political crime of which he/she has not been pardoned and that he/she has not been convicted of a moral crime.
6. An affidavit that the candidate is not affiliated to any non-licensed political party.
7. An affidavit that the candidate is not under contract entitling him/her to financial benefits from a government department, except for contracts for rent or real estate.
8. A receipt proving that he/she has paid the JD 500 fee for his/her candidacy to the state treasury.

Meanwhile, a report in Sawt Al Shaab Saturday said that the distribution of 1,578,180 voting cards will begin Sunday, and the Ministry of Interior will announce the centres where registered voters can pick them up.

The report said that the voting cards for the Amman governorate are green; Irbid, white; Balqa, orange; Karak, light green; Ma'an, yellow; Zarqa, light blue; Mafrqa, grey and Tafleeh, pink.

## Post-war rehabilitation requires demographic, social and political considerations — Gharaibeh

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Jordan President Fawzi Gharaibeh Saturday opened a five-day workshop at the University to discuss post-war rehabilitation programmes in the Middle East, by calling on academics and decision makers to respond to the aspirations of the countries concerned to implement such programmes, taking into account demographic, social, and political considerations.

Referring to the developments of the Middle East, Dr. Gharaibeh said that in the last few decades the region served as an arena for numerous events that led, among other things, to a population explosion, socio-economic changes and political developments that affected the inhabitants, the stability and security of the entire region.

Addressing the opening session was David Shepherd, head of the continuing Education Centre at York University in the United Kingdom. Dr. Shepherd spoke about the creation of a special unit at the British university that focuses on rehabilitation, construction and development.

The current workshop here is part of the York University's activities in promoting exchanges of expertise in planning and development and is designed to help in creating a regional studies centre in the Middle East described to intensify research and conduct related training, added Dr. Shepherd.

According to Kamel Mahadin, head of the workshop's preparatory committee, the university's of Jordan and York are working closely to establish such a centre.

The workshop, said Dr. Mahadin, will deal with civil defence, planning for emergencies, reconstruction and rehabilitation of stricken areas in the aftermath of armed conflicts.

Delegates from countries in the region and international organisations are taking part in the meeting.

## Live piano to accompany silent film

By Jean-Claude Elias  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — On the occasion of International Music Day, the French embassy in Amman and the Cinematheque Francaise de Paris will present a film by the celebrated French director Reni Clair.

The event is held under the patronage of Minister of Culture, Mahmoud Al Samra, in cooperation with the Amman Players Orchestra, and will take place tonight (Sunday) at 8:00 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC).

The 1927 film from the silent era is in black and white. It will, however, have a unique flavour for the audience because the accompanying music will be performed

live during the screening by the renowned French pianist and composer Raymond Alessandrini who will be visiting Jordan on the occasion.

"Le Chapeau de Paille d'Italie," the movie title, is a well-known story by playwright Eugene Labiche, who was an illustrious member of the distinguished Academie Francaise.

In the early days of silent movies, well before synchronised music and speech were possible and before even non-synchronised music sound tracks could be added to the image track of a film, a pianist was often hired to play live in the theatre during the projection of such movies.

Special, discrete signs or marks, known only by the pianist, were usually inserted in the film, and helped the musician start, stop, or accentuate certain effects.

Now that the film industry can display an amazing array of hi-tech sound systems ranging from Dolby surround stereo effects to true-to-life laser sound tracks, Raymond Alessandrini is bringing back a charming and tasteful touch of nostalgia to the RCC.

Mr. Alessandrini graduated in 1966 from the National Superior Music Conservatory of Paris.

The music Mr. Alessandrini will play tonight are his own compositions.

**PROCUREMENT NOTICE**  
**JORDAN ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY**  
**Aqaba Thermal Power Station-Stage II**  
**Project**  
**Civil Works**  
**Tender No. 48/93**

The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) announces that the Civil Work Tender Documents (Tender No. 48/93) for Aqaba Thermal Power Station-Stage II Extension Project, are available for purchase as of Wednesday Oct. 6, 1993, for the pre-qualified civil works contractors.

This tender consists of furnishing all material, equipment, drawings and labour for the civil works associated with the project.

The project, which consists of two (2) units of a capacity of 130 MW each and burning HFO-will be divided into four major contract packages:

- The turbine island (Tender No. 46/93)
- The boiler island (Tender No. 47/93)
- The civil works (Tender No. 48/93)
- The fuel oil tank island (Tender No. 49/93)

The companies who have not bid for the civil works prequalification tender (Tender No. 59/93) will be allowed to purchase the civil works tender documents to bid as a part of a single turnkey tender for the whole project-works only according to the following conditions:

1. The tenderer should not be one of the rejected companies of the civil works prequalification tender No. 59/93.
2. The tender should meet the requirement of the prequalification tender documents. Accordingly, the prospective tenderer shall purchase both the civil works tender documents and the civil work prequalification invitation documents (Tender No. 48/93 and No. 59/93 respectively).
3. The bid shall be a part of a turnkey tender. Offer for the civil works tender only will be rejected.

It is expected that Arab and international funding agencies will participate in financing the project. Procurement will be subject to the terms and conditions of the respective lending agencies.

Sealed tenders shall be submitted to the secretary of the Tendering Committee before 10:00 a.m. Amman time, Monday, January 3, 1994 at the JEA office in Amman.

Tender documents are available from the address given below for a non-refundable fee of \$1,500 payable to JEA for each set consisting of two copies of the documents of the civil works tender No. 48/93:

**Jordan Electricity Authority**  
**Zahrani Street — 7th Circle**  
**P.O.Box 2310**  
**Amman - Jordan**  
**Telex: 21259, Fax 818336**

**WHAT'S GOING ON**

**EXHIBITIONS**

- ★ Photo exhibition displaying pictures from Jordan and Syria by German artist J. Swakowski at the Goethe Institute.
- ★ Art exhibition by Mrs. Luci Marto, Janine Saut, and Tete Wegelius at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Photo exhibition entitled "Desert Rituals" by Egyptian artist Mona Ra'ouk at the Baladna Art Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition by artist Ali Talib at the Balka's Art Gallery in Al Fuhais.
- ★ Art exhibition by artists Dr. Ala Bashir and Sa'di Abbas at the Alfa Art Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition by artist Mahmoud Al-Ubaidi at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by artist Ali Al Mi'mar at the Orfalli Art Gallery. Telephone 826932.
- ★ Photographic exhibition on nature and the township of Sakab by artist Ghassan 'Aayaz-rak at the Student Affairs Department at the University of Jordan.
- ★ Exhibition of etchings by Mohammad Ousar Khalil at Darat Al Fann at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweideh. Also showing the permanent exhibition. Telephone 643251/2.
- ★ Plastic art exhibition by artist Hussein Daasch at the Alfa Art Gallery.
- ★ The First International Festival of Fine Arts in Jordan entitled "Colour and Light in the Nabatean Civilisation" at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts in Jordan.

**FILMS**

- ★ Silent film in black and white entitled "Le Chapeau de Paille d'Italie" with music composed and interpreted live by pianist Raymond Alessandrini at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.
- ★ Children's drama entitled "Aladdin's Lamp" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

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## Solutions from within

ITALY FIRST sounded the alarm, more than three months ago, that there was something wrong with the way United Nations intervention in Somalia was proceeding. France joined the bandwagon of sceptics when Paris announced only a few days ago that it intends to pull out its troops from the African country by January of next year. U.S. President Bill Clinton also seems to have caught up with the trend on Thursday when he announced that while beefing up his military contributions to the international efforts in Mogadishu, he nevertheless aims to withdraw his U.S. military machine by March of 1994.

It was obvious from the start that the mission of the U.N. in Somalia was going awry especially when the hot pursuit of General Mohammed Aided became the central issue for Washington in particular. Instead of limiting the deployment of the assembled international force to protect food and medicine supply lines, the U.S.-led forces became concerned mostly about subduing the capital and apprehending Gen. Aided. But when the U.S. began sustaining casualties, the Congress and the American people became edgy about just what the exact purpose of the U.N. intervention was. Meanwhile the supporters of warlord Aided rallied more strongly around their chief as the mission of the Americans became focused on militarism rather than humanitarianism.

In a sense the fuzzy U.S. objectives in Somalia gave Aided the necessary trump card to press with his determination to bring about an early international withdrawal from his country.

In any case, there is still room to correct the course in Somalia by sticking more closely to the original mandate. After all, the basic objective of the international organisation was to feed the Somalis and provide them with medicine and not to police their country according to some ulterior motives that nobody understood. True, there will always be a need to use military force to realise even this humanitarian aim, but only as a support mechanism to the principal purpose. The deployment of gunships and the strafing of civilians is not exactly a humanitarian deed no matter how well-intended. Probably more Somalis died in the name of "humanitarianism" than would have been the case if they were left to tackle their problems on their own. Killing Somalis in order to save them does not strike us as logical or sensible by any stretch of the imagination.

In retrospect, instead of tucking tail and running, the U.N. sponsored armies serving in Somalia need to redirect their attention to pure humanitarian work. This they can easily do by limiting their operations to simply ensuring that international food and medicine aid is reaching the people. There is no way that an outside interference can on its own put the Somalis on the road to democracy, for example. Such a goal can only be attained when the Somalis themselves are prepared and ready for it. For now, they need from the world to help them till they can put their house in order. Disarming the bandits crawling all over the country would require another mandate which cannot come within the purview of the existing U.N. Security Council resolutions on the country. Let the international community therefore stick to what it first set out to do in that war-stricken country and leave other aims and purposes for other missions that could be better handled by the Somalis themselves, with the help of other Africans or whoever actually wants to help.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL DUSTOUR daily Saturday pointed the attention of the Arab and Muslim world to the fact that western nations now consider Muslims as the next in line for attack after the Soviet Union. Following the downfall of Communism, the Western countries are now obsessed with Islam and how to deal with the rise of fundamentalism around the world, said the daily. The Western mentality is obsessed with the idea that Islam is the enemy of the world and should be eliminated, warned the paper. It said that certain Islamic movements are helping to bolster this wrong impression in the minds and in the media of the western nations with their behaviour and extremist positions which by no means represent the true image of Islam.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Saturday said that little zeal is manifest on the part of the public for the coming parliamentary elections. Days before the start of the election campaign most Jordanians seem to be lacking interest in the coming event because they are largely affected by the recent developments on the domestic and external fronts, said Tareq 'Issawi. The "Gaza-Jericho first" option, a deal struck between the PLO and Israel recently, the amendment of the Election Law to become one-person-one vote and the impression left over from the previous Parliament that it had little effect on the actions of the executive authority together are influencing the public opinion away from participation, noted the writer. This is a dangerous situation and does not augur well for democracy in Jordan.

## Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Al Fanek

## Economic adjustment programme reactivated

VERY few know that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) declared four months ago the Jordanian economic adjustment programme inoperative. It is not known whether this rigid and hasty decision by the IMF was made just to put Jordan's economic stability and well-being under threat, as a way to pressure Jordan for political ends related to what was about to happen in the peace process, or the programme was suspended due to bank-credit having exceeded the ceiling agreed upon in the programme. Interestingly, the IMF abrupt decision was made at the level of middle management, perhaps to suggest that it was a technical affair.

This explains the tough measures taken by the Central Bank to control and check the credit expansion in order not to give the IMF an excuse to withdraw from the implementation of the programme. The Central Bank measures were very effective because the banks adhered to the strict instructions. The month of August witnessed a further reduction of credit by JD 27 million, which more than corrected the discrepancy the IMF overplayed.

Last week, the governor of the Central Bank of Jordan capitalised on the favourable atmosphere created by the presence and activities of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in Washington and the successful contacts he made at the highest level with the American administration, the IMF and the World Bank. The governor requested increasing the credit ceiling stipulated in the programme by extra JD 45 million. When the request is officially approved, within a week, the banking system may be allowed to extend up to JD 72 million more than the ceiling now in effect. This will be more than enough to accommodate all legitimate needs of healthy economy during the last quarter of 1993. More than

that will not be desirable and may give rise to a wave of inflation which we should avoid by all means.

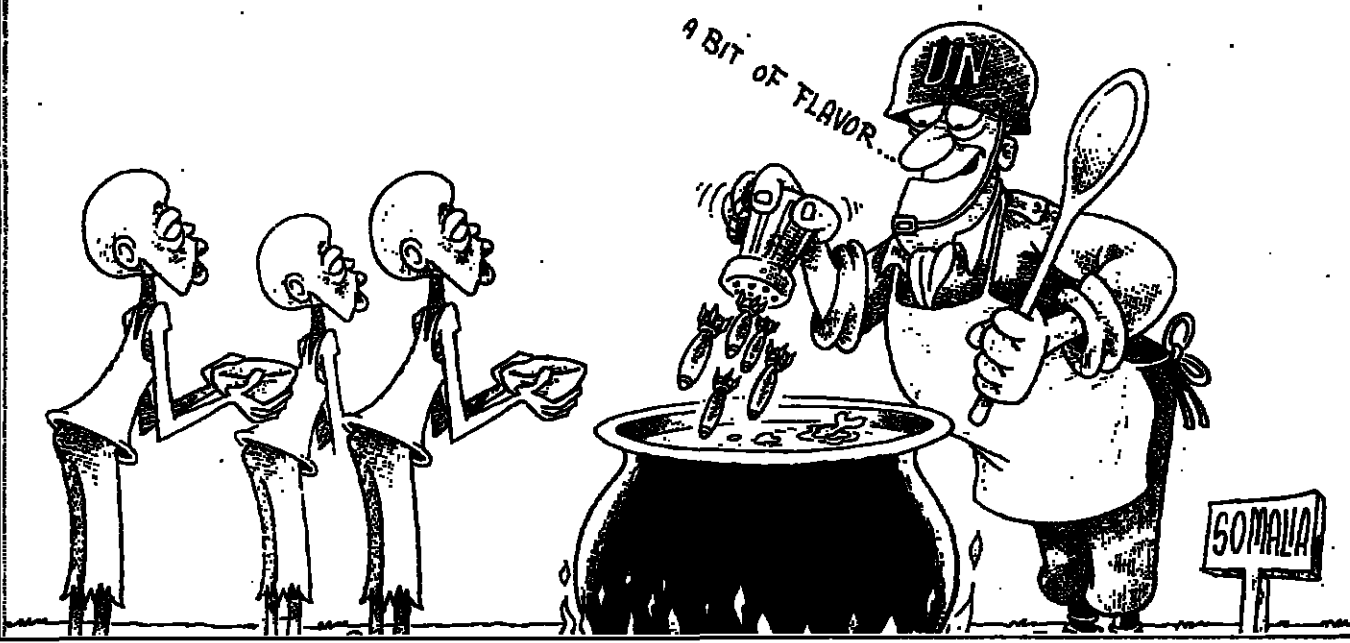
Based on this, Jordan issued a supplementary letter of intent which was signed by the minister of finance and the governor of Central Bank. The approval of the Council of Ministers was secured ahead of time, before the departure of the Jordanian financial and monetary delegation to Washington to attend the annual meetings of the IMF and the World Bank. The final approval of the board of directors of the IMF is expected any moment; thus the economic adjustment programme will be reinstated and becomes operative again.

It is worth mentioning that the World Bank, in turn, decided to freeze the soft loan of \$80 million to finance the development and restructuring of the electricity sector as a result of the IMF decision to declare the programme inoperative. The loan will once more become available as soon as the programme itself becomes formally operative.

This experience is worth drawing a lesson: It seems that the IMF will be more than happy to relieve itself of the responsibilities of the programme and Jordan should not furnish an excuse for such a withdrawal at the wrong time, which may have a negative impact on the Jordanian economy. If we do not want pressure to be exerted upon us, the management of the economy should be extremely cautious to avoid discrepancies or make up for them as soon as they are identified. Shortcomings do exist now and then, but responsible management should remain on top of events at all times.

Last but not least, the Crown Prince deserves every appreciation for his excellent achievements during his trip to Washington and New York. His performance, as the right arm of the King, was superb and fruitful.

M. KAHIL



## Conflicts and arms race in the Middle East

By Dr. S. Farooq Hasnat

THE arms race in the Middle East, though directly linked with the existing conflicts in the area, has been further complicated by the United States' arbitrary declaration of the five regional states (Iraq, Iran, Syria, Libya and Sudan) as countries that support terrorist activities worldwide. No distinction has been made between a genuine struggle for independence, a quest to attain human rights and isolated acts of terrorism. Interesting enough, Serbia and other similar places have been conveniently ignored. This politically-biased categorisation has created further ground for distrust and insecurity that lead to arms proliferation.

There are at least six categories of disputes in the Middle East region. The first five have provoked regional tensions with serious international ramifications while the sixth is still in its incipient stage.

The first five kinds of dispute have been instrumental in the increasing flow of armaments to the region in one form or the other; they are:

1. Inter-state wars — Arab-Israeli wars of 1948, 1956, and 1973; the Iran-Iraq war of 1980-1988; Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, 1990-1991; Armenia-Azerbaijan, 1992-1993.

2. Regional border tensions — Iran-United Arab Emirates (UAE), 1991; Qatar-Saudi Arabia, 1992; Tajikistan-Afghanistan, 1993.

3. Security-related chronic issues — Palestinian question, 1948; division of Cyprus, 1973.

4. Ethnic pressures — Kurds in Turkey, Iraq and Iran. Turks in Greece and Bulgaria.

5. Internal dissent — civil war conditions in Algeria, Egypt, Sudan.

The sixth category is environment related. It involves sharing of water, refugees; mineral deposits on borders; sites of religious monuments.

From 1970 to 1983, the Third World arms purchase increased by 742 per cent, to reach a peak of \$28 billion in 1983. Of the top arms spenders from 1985-1988, the seven belong to the Middle East. This tendency continued in 1988, with Iraq leading arms import \$4.5 billion worth of arms, followed by Saudi Arabia \$3 billion, Iran \$3 billion, Israel \$2 billion and Egypt \$1 billion. In 1988 the Egyptians and the Israelis were getting 41 per cent of their armaments imports

with financing from American aid and purchased from American manufacturers. By 1990, the Saudis moved to the top of the arms buyers list, purchasing \$6.7 billion worth of weapons. The main supplier was Britain, followed by the U.S.

In the aftermath of the 1990-91 Gulf crisis, the U.S. declared it wanted to "develop" regional security in the area, i.e., without the inclusion of the major regional actors, Iran and Iraq. For this it wanted to build permanent military bases in Bahrain and arms storage facilities in Saudi Arabia. But these two countries, fearing adverse consequences, declined the American proposals. Nevertheless, new security agreements were signed with Kuwait and Qatar, while old treaties with Saudi Arabia and Bahrain were renewed. In the post-Gulf war period, apart from Saudi Arabia, the smaller countries of the Gulf became equally involved in stockpiling arms for their "defence needs". In April 1993, for example, the UAE announced plans to buy \$3 billion worth of military equipment, including 390 French tanks as well as Russian-manufactured armoured carriers. In June of the same year, the Kuwaiti government took a decision to spend \$12 billion to "rebuild its armed forces", mainly through the purchase of arms from the United States. It also went ahead to purchase 236 M1A2 tanks, worth \$1.9 billion, from the same source. However, analysts dismiss the given Gulf's military structures as too "inept to use sophisticated weapons in sophisticated ways." According to one former U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia: "The main purpose for military sales to the region has always been the money involved" — which means that a genuine security threat is not a strategy for the supplier or for the spender.

The arms race in the Middle East has acquired a multi-dimensional approach. Every country comes up with its own reasons for acquiring more arms. It is observed that, "fear of Iran is cited for a Saudi buildup, Saudi purchases are used to justify Israeli arms deals, Syria scrambles to keep up with Israel, and so on."

The chairman of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee, Rep. Lee Hamilton, had remarked that in spite of a

strong desire to put an end to the arms race in the Middle East, the arms keep on flowing under one pretext or the other. Sometimes, according to Mr. Hamilton, the justification is the need for business and jobs (in western societies) while the buyer comes out with a strong argument for national security concerns.

The cost of a conflict and the maintenance of peace or even the reversed of a condition created by a belligerent state have been made extremely costly by the leading exporters of arms. For example, owing to the 1990-1991 Gulf crisis, defence arrangement with the U.S. presented a tremendous financial burden on the concerned states. It is estimated that the Arab countries of the Gulf had to bear a net loss of \$676 billion as a consequence of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the subsequent war. The Arab Monetary Fund in its April report said that Iraq sustained a total loss of \$237 billion while Kuwait suffered losses of \$240 billion. The two countries, between them, shared around 70 per cent of the total cost of the crisis. Apart from that, the Arab countries collectively lost around \$91 billion due to a rapid decline in the economic growth. Even long before, in the aftermath of the Egypt-Israel peace treaty of 1979, the arms flow into these countries increased, instead of declining. Since that treaty was signed, both countries received more than \$5 billion in military loans and aid from the U.S. Apart from that, the U.S. has conducted military exercises with Egypt while the Israelis have signed treaties to stockpile U.S. equipment and to provide air bases. Although a peace process was initiated, the positive results were immediately eroded by other negative consequences. One way or another the policy of arms trafficking in the region continued unabated. If that is to provide a clue to the present peace talks, arms buildup should be addressed more seriously within the Arab-Israeli peace package.

On the one hand, the U.S. and its European allies continue to pursue a policy of arms exports while they criticise the Chinese for the sale of arms and technology to the Middle East. Opposition to Chinese involvement, according to a Western analyst, depends on

"just what China sells and to whom...with sales of weapons to U.S. allies, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, tolerated more easily than those to Iran and Iraq." The more recent episode in the West's crusade against Chinese arms sales was as recent as August this year when an economic embargo was imposed on China for the transfer of M-11 missile technology to Pakistan along with a search on the high seas of the Iran-bound cargo ship Yinhe, for alleged transport of chemicals.

True to American double standard, the Iraqi people have become a victim of continuous and prolonged embargo. The New York Times, in a recent editorial, commented: "In the months leading up to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait the Bush administration secretly underwrote a good chunk of the \$5 billion lent to Saddam Hussein to buy the makings of nuclear and chemical arms in the United States." The Times concluded that it was these huge transactions which encouraged the Iraqi leader to invade Kuwait. This is one of the many glaring examples of a shifting U.S. perception towards a given nation, as it suits its global interests.

The main obstacle to curbing the arms race in the Middle East is the unbalanced attitude of the U.S. and its European allies. Because of their subjective approach, five regional powers have turned their attention to either alternative sources or towards the advancement of their own arms industry. After all those countries' drive for more arms stems from insecurity created by the policies of the major powers.

Sanctions and restrictions will not address the real issues which are embodied either in the risk a society faces from its internal contradictions or from unsolved conflicts within the environment of the geographical boundaries. Another component has been the lack of international commitment to settle the disputes — notwithstanding the latest PLO-Israeli agreement — and to establish a viable system to redress these issues.

The writer is a visiting professor from Pakistan, working at the University of Jordan's Centre for Strategic Studies. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

## Return of Iraqi oil — a step closer

By Randall Palmer  
Reuters

MANAMA — Oil markets fear it and Iraqis long for it. The return of Iraqi oil supplies frozen by three years of sanctions may have drawn significantly closer.

Iraqi authorities finally capitulated to United Nations' demands and turned over names of suppliers and details of now-banned weapons programmes to a group of U.N. inspectors.

Failure to do so has been a major obstacle to ending the ban on Iraqi crude over Baghdad's August 1990 conquest of Kuwait. The embargo is unlikely to be lifted before the middle of next year but U.N. officials are talking about an important step in the right direction.

"There has been considerable progress, especially in the technical area," Rolf Ekeus, head of the U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM) in charge of destroying Iraq's prohibited weapons, said after a week's visit to Iraq.

"Baghdad's new attitude was a far cry from last December, when a U.N. inspector said an Iraqi general told him he would break the back of any Iraqi providing information to the U.N. teams."

He stressed that information given by Iraq had to be checked and assessed. But subject to that, he said UNSCOM had for the first time declared Baghdad to be in partial compliance of its responsibilities under U.N. Security Council resolutions.

"We used the word compliance for the first time," Mr. Ekeus said. Baghdad's new attitude was a far cry from last December, when a U.N. inspector said an Iraqi general told him he would break the back of any Iraqi providing information to the U.N. teams.

Unless the information Iraq has provided is found to be insufficient, only one major obstacle seemed to block UNSCOM's certification to the Security Council of full Iraqi compliance.

That is the demand that Iraq accept and allow the United Nations to implement Security Council Resolution 715, which provides for long-term intrusive monitoring of Iraq.

Mr. Ekeus calls this a political decision, one which can in theory be made quickly.

He cautions however that it would have to be accompanied by other declarations made under 715, for example regarding Iraq's high-technology factories that can be used for civilian as well as military purposes.

Beyond that, because of U.N. distrust of Iraqi intentions after false declarations and harassment of U.N. inspectors, Mr. Ekeus said UNSCOM would want six months of implementing the long-term monitoring before being able to declare compliance.

So OPEC and the oil markets are safe for at least half a year from a potential two or three million barrels per day coming into the market — and the Iraqis have another

wait before money again flows freely.

But Mr. Ekeus said his main counterpart in Baghdad, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz, would be resuming negotiations in New York in mid-November.

Mr. Aziz could in theory make the necessary declarations at that time. In any case Mr. Ekeus said the United Nations would try to move the process further during the talks.

Iraqi moves have been notoriously difficult to predict. President Saddam Hussein has shown willingness to stall, even at great cost to his people.

Diplomats say he has decided to spurn the U.N. offer of partial, humanitarian oil sales. He appears to be relying instead on a total lifting of the oil embargo which can only be obtained through weapons compliance.

Ultimately, it is not up to Mr. Ekeus or UNSCOM but the Security Council whether the embargo is lifted.

Resolution 687, which imposed ceasefire terms ending the six-week war which drove Iraq from Kuwait in February 1991, states that once the Security Council agrees that Iraq has complied on weapons the ban on imports from Iraq will end.

Under President George Bush, the United States had said that the sanctions would stay until President Saddam was removed.

President Bill Clinton has not made it publicly clear whether the United States, which has veto power on the council, would permit the embargo to be lifted once Iraq complied — though he has been firm in insisting on compliance.

"President Bill Clinton has not made it publicly clear whether the United States, which has veto power on the council, would permit the embargo to be lifted once Iraq complied (with U.N. resolution 715)."

But analysts increasingly believe that due to the prolonged suffering of Iraqi citizens, the west may be beginning to think that once compliance is there the political costs in the region will be too great to maintain the embargo.

In any case, a ban on unrestricted exports to Iraq is dealt with separately under Resolution 687. This could be maintained even after the oil embargo is lifted.

Exports to Iraq are tied to "the policies and practices" of Iraq — this means linked to issues such as human rights, missing Kuwaitis and recognition of the border with Kuwait.

As for the cash-strapped members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), there will be reluctance to cut their output to make room for Iraq.

But at least they had the foresight to agree in Geneva last month to meet to deal with Iraq once it was allowed back to the market.

## JORDAN ECONOMIC MONITOR Editor: Dr. Fahed Fanek

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## Ageing bruisers of Greek politics go into the ring one last time

By Stephen Weeks  
Reuter

ATHENS — Like a couple of old boxers long past their prime, Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis and socialist leader Andreas Papandreu are slugging it out in one last election battle to settle 30 years of enmity.

The stakes for the ageing titans who have dominated Greek politics for years are higher than before because no one expects them to fight each other again.

Mr. Mitsotakis, an austere provincial patriarch from Crete, is trailing badly in his fifth bout with Mr. Papandreu on Sunday, he will throw in the towel.

"If Papandreu is elected I will no longer have any services to offer the people and I will withdraw," he said with an almost fatalistic air in the final days of campaigning.

Mr. Mitsotakis, who returned the conservatives to power in 1990 for the first time in a decade, is between two and nine points behind in opinion polls. That would give Mr. Papandreu a solid absolute majority in the 300-seat parliament.

**"Both men are 74 and neither is appealing to the bulk of the voters, who are aged between 18 and 30. Three smaller parties are siphoning off the votes of the disgruntled and could provide for surprises in the outcome."**

Pollster Panayiotis Dimitras, expressing the general view, told Reuters: "It's hard to imagine an event so dramatic that it could turn the situation around for Mitsotakis."

Polls also show voters are angry and frustrated that they must choose again between what many see as a failed past, Mr. Papandreu, and a failed present, Mr. Mitsotakis.

Both men are 74 and neither is appealing to the bulk of voters, who are aged between 18 and 30. Three smaller parties are siphoning off the votes of the disgruntled and could provide for surprises in the outcome.

Little has gone right for Mr. Mitsotakis since he finally beat Mr. Papandreu at his fourth attempt in April 1990 and took his new Democracy Party to power with nearly 47 per cent of the vote.

That led many to write off Mr. Papandreu, son of the late centrist Prime Minister George Papandreu and an establishment socialist with a Harvard degree in economics.

During his 1981-89 rule he delighted the public with his fiery anti-American diatribes but he fell amid allegations of corruption, while openly carrying on an adulterous affair.

The calculating and vengeful Papandreu left behind a poisoned voting system, leaving Mr. Mitsotakis with a precarious one-seat majority in parliament in spite of his landslide win.

With his hands tied and a prisoner to any lone dissenter in his party, Mr. Mitsotakis struggled to push through his radical free market reforms and break tenacious state controls which had ballooned under Mr. Papandreu's rule.

Despite his tenuous grip on power, Mr. Mitsotakis imposed a three-and-a-half year economic austerity programme which hit the country's 10 million population hard.

He relentlessly pressed home his message that Greeks had lived too well on borrowed money under Mr. Papandreu and they must pay a heavy price to save the European Community's poorest state from economic collapse.

Public utility prices and taxes on petrol soared, state jobs were slashed and benefits from pension and social security funds took heavy blows. State pay rises were held well below a double-digit inflation

rate, now 12.8 per cent annually.

Worse, his ambitious privatisation plans and development projects, which he hoped would persuade Greeks he was taking them into the future, were slow in getting off the ground and are now frozen by the election.

The symbol of his hamstringed plans is the state Hellenic Telecommunications Organisation (OTE). Six foreign investors were in the final stage of bidding for 35 per cent of OTE and management rights. If the socialists win, the deal is dead.

Mr. Mitsotakis's goal in selling OTE was to get foreign managers to sort out OTE's legendary mess, with 500,000 Athenians waiting for telephone lines and those who had one rarely able to make it work.

His gambit, balancing austerity with development through privatisation and an expanded private sector, might have worked but he was torpedoed from within his own ranks.

Cought up in the winds of nationalism sweeping the Balkans and in the ambitions of lieutenants anxious to take his place, Mr. Mitsotakis was toppled by his young protégé and former foreign minister, Antonis Samaras, 42.

"It is difficult to rule when you're being stabbed in the back with a siletto, or a pack of silletoes," he lamented after calling the election.

Mr. Samaras set up his own nationalist party and then called on deputies to abandon Mr. Mitsotakis. Two defected, forcing the early vote just when the government believed the benefits of austerity and privatisation were about to be seen.

Failure to control Mr. Samaras and failure to push through his economic programme more quickly have forced Mr. Mitsotakis into the role of underdog and revived Mr. Papandreu's fortunes.

So confident is Mr. Papandreu that he rarely campaigns on behalf of his PASOK Socialist Party and he is clearly delighted that Mr. Mitsotakis's own unpopularity is doing the socialists' work for them.

If he wins, Mr. Papandreu will be exacting sweet revenge on Mr. Mitsotakis, with whom he has exchanged insults since the 1960s.

**"So deep is their mutual loathing that after driving Mr. Papandreu from power in June 1989, Mr. Mitsotakis hauled him and four of his senior ministers before a court on corruption charges."**

So deep is their mutual loathing that after driving Mr. Papandreu from power in June 1989, Mr. Mitsotakis hauled him and four of his senior ministers before a court on corruption charges.

Mr. Mitsotakis swore he would let justice run its course and was delighted at the thought of Mr. Papandreu behind bars, but judges voted seven to six for acquittal in January 1992.

Mr. Mitsotakis cut his losses and dropped a second indictment for illegal wiretapping. Mr. Papandreu has accused Mr. Mitsotakis of fabricating evidence against him in an effort to destroy the socialist movement.

"This abnormal and abbreviated period is over. Those who deceived the Greek people once with lies and fabrications will never do so again," he told an election rally this week.

Some diplomats expressed concern that if Mr. Papandreu won, the socialists could launch a new round of political cleansing and trials to avenge themselves on Mr. Mitsotakis and his followers.

"It's the worse case scenario but prominent socialists are already talking openly of paying back Mitsotakis and his camp in kind," one European Community diplomat said.

## University education and future citizens — aspirations and fears

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

The role of our university students in the formal institutions in charge of their education is especially important to examine during these historically dramatic times. College years are milestones indeed. Not only do they significantly shape (positively or negatively) the personalities of vast numbers of students enrolling year after year at our rapidly expanding universities, but also, simultaneously and inevitably, they determine the very nature and essence of the society in which these students soon become either active and productive or passive and burdensome members. In fact, it is the intrinsic quality (the character itself) of the human product provided by our higher education establishments which will have the ultimate say in our survival in the days to come.

University life is not simply a process of teaching and learning, though these two tasks are certainly central and sacred. Rather, it is education and experience. An excellent university is different from a poor or average one not only because of its distinguished staff (both academic and administrative), sophisticated curricula and effective methodology but also because of the wide range of opportunities it makes available to its students and of its ability to translate such opportunities into everyday reality.

Undeniably, students gain a great deal from a rich and healthy class environment, but they gain almost as much from other equally crucial campus activities. The general seminars one attends, the films one watches, the committees one works on, the clubs one becomes a member of, the serious intellectual encounters one has in the hallway or the cafeteria, the teams one joins, the reading groups one forms, etc., are both enjoyable and highly educational. Overseen and implemented in the right manner, such activities will undoubtedly help create (generally) well-developed and (more specifically) well-trained students, politically (in the wider sense of the word), emotionally and intellectually.

I have, for almost a decade now, been watching closely the state of our campus life, not only at Yarmouk University where I teach, (and where, due to the sound philosophy and happy circumstances which gave birth to it, some seventeen years ago the student/institution relationship may still be far better than that at similar establishments) but also at almost all other sister universities, both public and private, where I have either taught part-time or visited.

The picture is not all that pleasing. For the vast majority of our students (80 per cent of the whole student body, I would say) fruitful interaction outside the classroom is, believe it or not, non-existent. Most students come to the university with

books under their arms, drag themselves to classes, sit and chat casually on the stairs, under the trees or in the cafeteria, and then go home."

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ly, the number was noticeably small. Out of over a thousand English majors officially registered in the specialisation, only about 50-60 students (i.e. 5 per cent) attended the various functions regularly. A meagre percentage indeed. This means that over 900 students in the English Department were intellectually indifferent, lukewarm and careless. Clearly, this is bad news.

The good news, however, is that the 50-60 students participated in nearly all the activities devotedly and faithfully. Obviously, they be-

neffited a great deal from the campaign: their initial shyness and hesitation disappeared almost completely, their expression sharpened tremendously, their awareness of their needs and duties and of those of others grew noticeably, and their sense of responsibility and commitment increased immensely. On the whole, they became much more independent and reliable. This is the best one hopes to gain from university education.

Several guest speakers were truly impressed by their civility, maturity and sense of belonging to the institution. As for me, I admired their enthusiasm, their thirst for knowledge and their intellectual excellence. If there is hope for our society in the days to come, it shall most certainly spring from such portion of the student body.

But the silent, dull majority poses a problem. Students belonging to this category seem to be unexcited, unexcitable and in many cases unreachable. They are blatantly sceptical, cynical and dismissive of campus activities. Nothing seems to interest them. Naturally, they get very little (if anything) out of college experience.

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Naturally also, they will influence society negatively upon their graduation: not only will they make poor, mediocre citizens but will, due to the nature of the sensitive jobs they will most probably hold, also spoil and corrupt others. Many of them will work as teachers, civil servants, public relations employees, radio and TV announcers and programme writers and producers, journalists, politicians, etc.

One knows, of course, where the roots of the problem lie. Years of neglect and repression by the family and the school will yield only results like this. What does one expect children who, without the minimal degree of parental care, are in the streets from dawn to dusk — playing soccer in the roads and alleys, invading trash cans, torturing a stray dog, harassing drivers, etc. (if you do not believe it, go to the so-called "popular" areas in Amman and see for yourself) — to do when they come to the university and have long hours to spend on campus between classes? What does one expect from

you do not take yourselves seriously, no one will. Having said this, however, we must insist that the main responsibility falls upon the institution. With due respect (and I mean it) to all what our colleges and universities are doing in this respect, I believe they have not been doing enough. I know, of course, that our higher education establishments have been providing opportunities, impressive in both their philosophy and their scope. At Yarmouk University, for instance, I have counted more than 25 clubs and societies designed specifically to cater for the student's various needs. There is, in addition to the many sport teams and specialised forums in the individual departments, the following general ones: Thought and Dialogue Forum, the Folklore Club, the Cine Club, the Potential Leadership Programme, Community Service Society, Health Club, Friends of the Blood Bank, Friends of the Environment, Modern Languages Club, the Literary Club, and many more. What more does one

skills. What is needed is an outreach programme. Reaching out for the "unreachable" students is much like the process of fundraising. One cannot send letters to donors and wait for them to donate. No, hard work begins after the forwarding of the letter: one has to call by phone, to go see potential donors, to invite them to a reception, etc. I strongly believe that if we go out of our way to exert an extra effort and make a genuine attempt, we can achieve some success. We cannot, I am sure, make all students join, but we can at least raise the percentage of participants from five to 20, 30, or even 40.

The institution may also have to work on the students psychologically. Many of them suffer from a serious attitude problem and from a real sense of fear. One student informed me (and this is a typical reservation) that the first thing his father said to him when he registered at the university was to stay away from clubs and societies, to stay away from trouble. It is not easy for the students to overcome such distrust and fear and just plunge into the new environment. The institution has an important role to play: it has to create an atmosphere of confidence to help the students cross the various barriers set up through misguided ways of upbringing and bad past experiences.

Finally, I have faith in the potential ability of both the majority of our students and of our institutions to live up to expectations. The matter is serious. Our very existence, and our very destiny are at stake. If the high hopes we pin on the democracy/peace era are to be successfully realised and the risks skillfully averted, we (individuals and institutions alike) must begin sooner than later a process of real change in our attitude and in our approach. We expect the new Middle East to be extremely competitive and challenging. It is a must for our future citizen, therefore, to be truly efficient, competent, excellent and highly marketable. There is no room for mediocrity.

The writer is an assistant professor of American literature in the English Department at Yarmouk University, Irbid. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

**"What does one expect children who, without the minimum degree of parental care, are in the streets from dawn to dusk — playing soccer in the roads and alleys, torturing a stray dog and harassing drivers — to do when they come to university and have long hours to spend on campus between classes?"**

those who never joined a club at school, never pursued a hobby seriously, were never encouraged to participate in school life? We do both understand and sympathise. But we also do blame.

College students are adults, not children. There is a time in one's life when one stops lamenting one's misfortune and fate and stops finding excuses for one's own drawbacks and mistakes. College time is the time when one pulls one's self together and gets involved. No one understands one's own wishes, aspirations, and ills better than one's own self. Reform can be self-initiated and self-implemented. I say to such students: Wake up; if

what?

But while there is not much of a problem when it comes to creating and extending opportunities, there seems to be a serious flaw in the application and realisation. Let's not forget that the major bulk of the students, for whom such activities are designed, is not participating in them. We cannot decree the formation of clubs and societies and expect our students to flock to them. They do not and will not. Nor can we simply talk to them and say "No one has responded."

What we need to do, as an institution, is to try to sell the activities to the students, by all means available and with all our dedication, patience,

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S POSITION The Jordanian-American Commission for Educational Exchange

The newly established Jordanian-American Commission for Educational Exchange (The Fulbright Commission), Amman, Jordan, invites applications from Jordanian and American citizens for the position of executive director.

The Commission is a non-profit, bi-national entity responsible for administering a complex programme of international academic exchange between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the United States of America.

The successful candidate must be fluent in English and familiar with Arabic, have strong oral and written communication skills, be thoroughly conversant with the educational systems of the two countries, and hold an earned PhD. He or she must have at least five years' experience in a senior academic/financial managerial position (preferable in a cross-cultural, Arab-American environment) and at least two years experience living in the Arab World (for a Jordanian applicant, two years' experience living in the United States). Working knowledge of the policies and procedures of the Fulbright Programme and experience in multi/bilateral organisations are desirable.

Duties will include, but not be limited to, the management of all aspects of the Commission's operation — administrative, financial, personnel and public relations. Candidates must be effective when interacting with Jordanian and American government officials and academics and be able to guide the implementation of an international exchange programme that meets the changing needs of both countries, ensuring that the Commission fulfills the legislative intent and purposes of the bilateral agreement.

The application should include a cover letter and a technical writing sample.

A one-year renewable contract; salary negotiable. Apply by November 1, 1993 to:

(In Jordan)  
Jonathan K. Rice  
American Embassy (USIS)  
P.O. Box 354  
Amman, 1118 Jordan

(In the United States)  
Jonathan K. Rice  
Unit 76205  
APO AE 09092-0205

## VACANCY FINANCE

**A major Multinational Company** operating out of a regional office in Amman seeks to employ a person to fill a newly created position in the Finance Department.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

*The successful candidate will report directly to the Area Finance Manager. He will be responsible for the preparation of feasibility studies, the preparation of forecasts and plans, the periodical updating of certain computerized systems and the implementation of new operating systems.*

### QUALIFICATIONS

*A university degree in Finance or Accounts and /or member of a recognized professional accounting body in the US (CPA) or in the UK (ACA or ACCA). Prior experience in a similar position is essential, literacy in computers (Spreadsheets, Accounting packages ETC.) will be considered an advantage.*

### REMUNERATION

*A very generous remuneration package above the going local rates will be offered to the successful candidate.*

If interested please submit your resume in English to:  
Attention: Finance Manager

Vacancy Finance  
P.O.Box 830848  
Amman

Applications should be received by October 21st, 1993.



## Shares scale new peaks at four European bourses

FRANKFURT (R) — Share markets closed at record highs in Frankfurt, London, Zurich and Stockholm Friday as hopes for global economic recovery and easier credit took hold.

The Frankfurt Bourse closed at an all-time high for the fourth consecutive day, astonishing traders who had expected interest to peter out as the weekend approached.

The 30-share DAX index ended up 7.77 points at 2,005.01, closing above the 2,000 mark for the first time ever as a week-long rally continued.

Swiss shares hit their third record high of the week with the blue-chip SMI index adding 5.8 points to close at 2,533.8. News that several banks had cut cash bond rates and were lowering mortgage rates brought new money into the bourse.

In London, a late rally shook the market out of a directionless drift, and the Financial Times-Stock Exchange (FTSE) 100-share index ended at its highest closing level so far, rising 16.2 points to 3,108.6.

Dealers said the gains arose from continued stock shortages and after a rally in FTSE futures.

Stockholm's O.M. index, based on 25 shares on the main bourse list, also finished at new all-time closing high of

1,052.27, up from 1,044.89, after heavy turnover.

The Paris Bourse rallied, shadowing other European markets, with the CAC-40 index ahead 8.97 points at a 2,156.38 but off its record high of 2,222.87.

Dutch shares were expected to scale new highs next week after closing mostly firmer on Friday. The EOE index finished 0.28 points higher at 360.76, within striking distance of the all-time high of 367.23 set on Aug. 31.

Strong buying continued into electronic inter-bank trading in Germany after bourse floor trading had closed, and market participants said the bull trend seemed unstoppable.

"Everyone is extremely bullish...above the 2,000 level there are no (chart) resistance levels," one trader said.

Liquidity from investment funds, keen to move out of lower yielding money market funds as German interest rates slide, had flooded the market, dealers said.

Klaus Koepke, analyst at James Capel in Frankfurt, was confident share prices would continue to climb. "We are in a liquidity boom," he said.

German stocks have been gaining strongly since Russian President Boris Yeltsin successfully fought off a challenge

by parliament to his rule at the start of this week.

Prospects for even lower interest rates and hopes that Germany is beginning to crawl out of its worst post-war recession have further bolstered the market.

Revived hopes of lower interest rates in Switzerland are expected to boost Swiss shares to further highs, analysts say, and predict the SPI index will climb another five per cent by year-end.

The start of Friday's session in Frankfurt had been slow with most operators predicting a period of consolidation. A new assault on the 2,000 level on the DAX had not been expected until next week. On Thursday the DAX briefly breached 2,000 before retreating.

However, dealers said professional traders had been forced to cover positions by buying stocks as investment funds moved in late in the session.

Utilities shares were among the most sought-after stocks as buyers picked up shares in sectors neglected in the first days of the rally. Shares in electricity firm RWE rose 11.10 marks to 473, while shares of Veba A.G. energy conglomerate closed 4.30 marks higher on the day at 459.30.

## ASEAN to set up 3rd growth triangle

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Malaysia, Brunei, the Philippines and Indonesia are setting up a growth triangle to bolster trade and investment in the third such venture by the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), it was announced Friday.

The east ASEAN growth triangle will comprise Indonesia's Sulawesi and Kalimantan areas, Mindanao in the southern Philippines, the eastern Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak and tiny oil-rich Brunei, Indonesia's Industry and Trade Coordinating Minister Hartanto said.

The ASEAN countries, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand are already involved in two other growth triangles.

The southern growth triangle comprising Indonesia's Riau province, Singapore and Malaysia's Johor state has already taken off while projects are being identified in the proposed northern growth triangle involving southern Thailand, northern peninsular Malaysia and Sumatra, officials said.

"The east ASEAN growth triangle has much marine resources and potential for joint undertakings in the energy, tourism and trade sectors," Rizalino Navarro, Philippine trade and industry minister, said after annual talks with his ASEAN counterparts.

Mr. Navarro said that a memorandum of understanding to expedite the development of the east ASEAN growth triangle was expected to be signed by the four countries in December.

"The growth triangle was mooted by Indonesia some time ago and this was followed up by President Fidel Ramos during a recent visit to Jakarta," Mr. Navarro said.

Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, who opened the ASEAN economic ministers meeting here Thursday, said that growth triangles would draw the economies of the six member countries closer and "demonstrate what ASEAN can achieve as a group."

## Silver market still shines but could fade

LONDON (R) — Silver prices continued to shine Friday, as the market rose to a one-month peak for the second consecutive day, but market analysts said its rally was unlikely to last much longer.

Silver was fixed in London at \$4,3650 an ounce, up from \$4,333 Thursday and showing a gain of more than eight per cent in the last week.

"My feeling is we won't see it go too far above \$4,400. It's encountering good trade selling and would have to break \$4,500 to really take off," said Rhona O'Connell, precious metals analyst at brokers T. Moore and Co.

The current run-up in prices began Wednesday and was triggered by strong buying in the European options market.

Options give the holder the right but not the obligation to buy a commodity at a set (strike) price and date.

Silver's relatively low cost for a precious metal makes it attractive for speculative trading and vulnerable to sharp price swings.

"These flurries are not driven by demand fundamentals. Silver is the speculative market par excellence," one analyst said.

Silver is still a long way from

a 43-month peak of \$5.50 reached in early August as a well-publicised speculative rally by gold spilled over into other precious metals.

Then gold tumbled and silver followed, plunging to \$3.90, from which level it had made little progress until this week. Six months ago silver was languishing around \$3.56, its lowest price for nearly 20 years.

But despite world recession, industrial demand for silver is outstripping mine supply, analysts said.

According to independent analysts Commodity Research International (CRI), total mine supply last year was 13,723 tonnes and demand 14,080, leading to a deficit of 357 tonnes.

CRI's Tony Warwick-Ching expects the deficit to grow to around 500 tonnes this year as production remains steady but demand rises a little.

Other analysts say a different picture emerges if extensive world stocks are taken into account. New York market warehouses hold around 8,500 tonnes, enough to supply this year's projected deficit for 17 years, while dealers' vaults in London and Zurich contain a lot more.

## Italian tax climbdown stirs policy doubts

MILAN (R) — Parliament's victory in a tussle over a key tax reform has stirred fears that the cabinet of Prime Minister Carlo Azeglio Ciampi may weaken in its resolve to fight Italy's budgetary ills, economists said Friday.

The government has been forced to back down over reform to a so-called minimum tax which for the past year has been levied successfully on the self-employed and small businesses.

Under pressure from parliament, mindful of looming elections, the government has agreed to speed up changes to the controversial tax which will pull some of its teeth and cut government revenues for next year.

The government, which is committed to trimming around seven per cent off Italy's budget deficit next year, despite economic recession, says the reform will cost it about 1.4 trillion lire (\$875 million) in lost tax revenues in 1994.

Economists say it is not the amount of money that concerns them but the fact that the government of former central banker Ciampi, who prides himself on being independent of political pressure, has been seen to retreat again.

Last month, the government ordered state energy group Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi to withdraw layoffs notices for several hundred workers at a loss-making fertilizer plant in southern Italy after workers there rioted.

"It is a bad sign," said Mario

Noera, chief economist at Milan merchant bank Euromobiliare, referring to the tax decision.

"The government's strongest card with the financial markets had been confidence it would be able to resist political lobbying. Now we know it is willing to compromise," he said.

The tax measure marked one of the first serious attempts to crack down on Italy's chronic tax evasion.

It is widely credited with a huge increase in tax revenues that has put the government comfortably on track to hit a 1993 budget deficit goal of about 150 trillion lire (\$94 million).

It would be the first time in years that an Italian government has succeeded in meeting a budget target.

The tax, however, was widely criticised as inflexible. The National Confederation of Small Businesses argued that many small companies had simply opted to close because they could not afford to meet the tax bills.

The measure assumes a minimum revenue for the self-employed and small companies, based on such guidelines as the number of employees and the type of occupation, to assess a base level of taxation.

The government had already agreed to reform the law from the 1995 tax year by making the tax levels an indication rather than an obligation.

## Price war takes new turn in British newspaper industry

LONDON (R) — The Independent newspaper announced a price rise Friday despite a bitter British circulation war that started in July when media magnate Rupert Murdoch began slashing the cost of some of his titles.

The independent said its Monday to Saturday editions would cost 50 pence (76 cents) from next Tuesday, up five pence, and its weekly sister broadsheet, the Independent on Sunday would rise 10 pence to £1.00 (\$1.52), both with expanded formats.

The increases make them the country's expensive mass market papers. Their owner, Newspaper Publishing PLC, seems to be betting Mr. Murdoch's strategy was wrong.

"It's either folly or extreme confidence," said industry analyst Derek Terrington of London brokers Kleinwort Benson.

Mr. Murdoch's News Corp PLC cut the price of The Times to 30 pence (46 cents) from 45 pence (69 cents) last month, a move The Independent alleged was aimed at putting it out of business. In July it had cut the price of The Sun, its daily tabloid which boasts the biggest circulation in Britain, to 20 pence.

The Times has said that contrary to popular wisdom newspaper sales were price-sensitive, just like most other commodities.

The Independent says readers know they get what they pay for and low prices are no substitute for quality.

It wasn't yet clear who got it right. The Audit Bureau of Circulation, the industry's independent monitor, said September figures were not due out until Oct. 18.

Kleinwort Benson's Terrington said so far The Times seemed to have added slightly to its circulation figures, which were around 360,000 copies a day before the price cut.

The Independent, which was at about 340,000 a day, appears to have held up well. He believes the losers include the Daily Telegraph, which he reckons has lost 10,000 to 20,000 from its 1,020,000 circulation, and the tabloid Daily Mail, which has lost 20,000 to 30,000 from its daily figure of 1,770,000.

Dogged since it was founded in 1886 by lack of cash, The Independent has the most at stake in the price wars.

"This move smacks of desperation," said BZW analyst Vignesh Padachi. "They obviously badly need the revenues."

The Independent's owner, Newspaper Publishing, is working on a financial restructuring and some industry estimates are that it aims to raise £20 million (\$30.5 million).

The company is so worried by The Times price cuts it has asked British fair trading authorities to investigate on the grounds of predatory pricing. It believes News Corp is willing to subsidise its loss-making Times to cut competition in the market by driving The Independent out of business.

## Peugeot crashes into loss

PARIS (R) — PSA Peugeot Citroen. Europe's third car maker, crashed into the red in the first six months of 1993, falling victim to a slump in European car sales.

The car maker, which makes both Peugeot and Citroen cars, made a first-half net attributable loss of 1.12 billion francs (\$197.6 million) after a 2.32 billion franc (\$409.2 million) profit in the same period in 1992, it said Thursday.

A 17.3 per cent fall in European sales of new cars in the first half of the year had thrown the car industry into an unprecedented crisis and Peugeot would now have to cut jobs and use more short-time work, it said.

"During the first half of 1993, (markets) deteriorated at an unprecedented rhythm in an economic climate marked by a general loss in confidence in the future and persistent currency disorder," it added.

Currency fluctuations knocked 1.29 billion francs (\$227.5 million) off its results as sterling, the lira and peseta slumped against the franc. Without those movements, it would have made a slight profit, Peugeot said.

First half sales fell 11.6 per cent to 73.05 billion French francs (\$12.89 billion).

Peugeot accused Japanese car makers of contributing to overcapacity and poor competition conditions, saying they

stole nearly another percentage point of European market share.

The European Community (EC) had permitted Japanese makers to raise their 1993 export quota to the EC by more than 1.3 million units compared with the level agreed to in 1991, it said.

But the company retained its 11.9 per cent share of the European market by making gains in Germany and Britain.

Its non-European sales rose sharply, gaining 10 per cent to 116,200 vehicles compared with the first half of last year as exports increased to Poland, South America and China, where both Peugeot and Citroen models are now made.

## Sugar prices should rise as supply falls

LONDON (R) — World stocks of sugar will drop further over the next 12 months, leading to steadily firming prices as consumption outpaces output, according to industry experts.

"The sugar market could be very exciting over the next few months," said Faridh Bromfield, a sugar analyst with trade house E.D. F. Man.

Prices are now hovering a little under 11 cents a pound for New York's March-delivery raws position. That is well below highs of some 13 cents earlier this year but above the

only eight cents seen near the start of 1993.

So far the market impact of the projected shortfalls has been limited but the experts say it should be not long before prices strengthen as the latest assessments sink in.

Several leading forecasters have published their predictions for the 1993/94 sugar year (October/September), and all of them show the same trend: Less output than demand.

The most recent was F. O. Licht, which Thursday put world 1993/94 production at 112.90 million tonnes, raw

value, compared to consumption of 114.20 million tonnes and a 2.14 million tonne drop in stocks. It said that unlike last year, the continuing plunge in stocks would have to affect prices this time.

Companies vary on how they count the crops, but all predicted larger supply deficits and stock drawdowns than 1992/93.

E. D. F. Man Wednesday saw world consumption outstripping demand by 734,000 tonnes while the International Sugar Organisation put the excess demand at 2.03 million.

There is some concern over the large amounts of Brazilian sugar which could remain in

system for another three months. Ms. Bromfield said. Analysts pointed to Asia as the major growth area for demand, notably India and China, but question-marks still hung over the former Eastern Bloc economies.

"Sugar prices can go up further...but they won't go sky-high because people do not want to hold large stocks," Ms. Bromfield said. She added that in recent years once prices did rise too high then buyers would start cutting back.

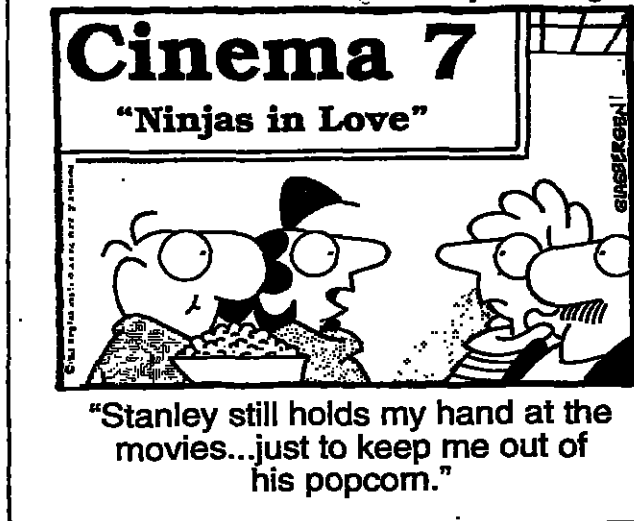
The government, which is committed to trimming around seven per cent off Italy's budget deficit next year, despite economic recession, says the reform will cost it about 1.4 trillion lire (\$875 million) in lost tax revenues in 1994.

Economists say it is not the amount of money that concerns them but the fact that the government of former central banker Ciampi, who prides himself on being independent of political pressure, has been seen to retreat again.

Last month, the government ordered state energy group Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi to withdraw layoffs notices for several hundred workers at a loss-making fertilizer plant in southern Italy after workers there rioted.

"It is a bad sign," said Mario

### THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen



### JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NOMEW

NEEMY

HEBLED

GRAHNE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: IGLOO AORTA PALNCH DISCUS

Answer: They contract to give you a comfortable ride — SPRINGS

### Peanuts



### Andy Capp



### Mutt'n'Jeff



### HOROSCOPE

**FORECAST FOR SUNDAY OCTOBER 10, 1993**  
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Start this new week right by analysing and studying all that is practical and make your changes accordingly so that you enjoy a greater amount of efficiency and productivity both at home and at work.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) This is not the day for worldly activities or interests but at the same time you can consider your personal aims and make progress in a plan to gain them.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Instead of seeking some new ways to have a more secure structure to your life make sure that you consult with a very up to date prominent person.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Instead of doing the same old things with your attachment try out some advanced and unique means by which to enjoy yourself this day.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Don't try to wow a partner by doing the same thing or make same plans over and over by finding new ways to reduce joint venture to a success.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Don't get involved in usual routine duties but you make the biggest progress by getting out in the world and drinking in fascinating outlets.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Make a point now to avoid entertainment activities for they would disappoint and get

into finding some new, modern ways to do your services better.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Think about what you can do to make your home happier and more comfortable site at which to reside with care and go out to amusements you enjoy.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Don't go to see persons or at conditions which are limiting or depressing but instead your home is most satisfactory plans at function.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Whatever you have in mind to attend of a material manner is best done during the coming weekdays and now you can visit fascinating companions.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Your own ideas are not good or likely to be productive of good results but you have an adviser who is up on the current conditions who can be helpful.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) You can have some highly inspired ideas how best to gain your unusual objectives so go after them and don't hang onto a depressing condition.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Seek out persons and periodicals that are very up to date in their views and plan your future activities from them and don't with a project that stifles you.

### THE Daily Crossword by Richard Thomas

ACROSS

1 Gave a mark to

8 Air around in fluid

11 Passing fancy

14 Soap plant

15 — culture

16 Papal name

17 Stephen King novel

19 Hoo-ha

20 Morse

21 Coat of paint

23 "Tritram Shandy" author

26 County in

28 Exact replicas

27 Play parts

28 Writer Bret

29 Archer and comic

30 Outdo

33 Move slowly

34 TV dramas

35 Sumpuous

36 Extreme degree

37 Scum alias

38 True prime

39 Two-wheeled carriage

41 Tap

42 Thick on the high seas

43 Plant killer

44 Steak type

45 Hatter

46 Meringue ingredient

47 Oregon pro

52 Mile or m

53 Raza

54 Crater on the moon

55 Norse god

56 Deities

57 Busybody

DOWN

1 Britain's flyers

2 — my brother's keeper?

3 Flocky crag

4 — hour (last possible moment)

5 Brando film

6 Western classic

7 Grains

8 Unconscious

9 Crane and

10 Foster

11 Food fish

12 Ornamental sewing

13 Mosquito

14 Poring

15 Larpus

16 Point of view

17 Baiter

18 Food fish

19 Dishonest

20 Island, NY

21 Musical group

22 Vezari

23 Dietary fiber

24 Run on

25 Fabric pattern

26 Montezuma's land: abbr.

27 Unwanted sounds

28 Bank or back

29 Bell girl

30 Main dish

31 Deceptions

32 A. Gardner

33 Buddhism

34 Time zone

35 Gov. power org.



## Egypt's SUMED goes ahead with oil storage expansion

CAIRO (R) — The Egypt-based oil pipeline SUMED, hoping to become a marketing hub for Gulf crude in southern Europe, will increase its long-term storage capacity, Egypt's oil minister said.

Hamdi Al Banbi, quoted in Saturday's Al Ahras newspaper, said the board of the Arab Petroleum Pipelines Company, which owns the pipeline, had approved the first stage of a scheme which could expand storage to up to 10 million barrels.

Six new tanks will be built at a cost of \$47 million, the newspaper said. It mentioned a figure of 4.5 million barrels storage but it was not clear whether this was the amount of the expansion or the new total amount of storage.

It was not clear when the work would start or the extra storage capacity come online. SUMED officials were not immediately available for comment.

The pipeline, which pumps about 1.6 million barrels of mainly Saudi and Iranian crude from Ain Sukhna on the Red Sea to the Sidi Kereir terminal on the Mediterranean coast, currently has 2.4 million barrels storage in four tanks.

SUMED, eyeing a gap in storage for southern European markets, has been debating the storage expansion plan for over a year but was awaiting the results of a feasibility study and approval from the board.

Long-term oil storage in southern Europe is now about three million tonnes (about 22 million barrels) compared to 10 million tonnes (about 73 barrels) in northern Europe, although consumption in the two areas is much the same.

Mr. Banbi said fees paid to the pipeline, owned by Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, rose by 15 per cent in the first half of 1993 compared to 1992. He did not give any figures.

## Palestinians to have commercial banks for a change

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Among the new setup that the Palestinians are looking forward to with the implementation of the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) accord on autonomy is a revival of the much-neglected banking sector in the occupied territories.

In fact, very few Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have dealt with a commercial banking system that caters to their needs since Israel occupied the territories in 1967.

One of the first moves of the occupation authority after the seizure of the territory was to close down the 33 Arab-owned banks in the area; the bulk of them branches of Jordanian commercial banks.

Israel tried to replace them with its own banks, but met

with resistance from the Palestinians under its occupation. As a result, there are only a few branches of Israeli banks in the occupied territories, but they render little service if only because of lack of clients.

After years of negotiations and resisting Israeli moves to control it altogether, Jordan's Cairo-Amman Bank, reopened in the occupied West Bank under joint supervision of the Jordanian and Israeli central banks. But although it operates seven branches there it could offer little service to the Palestinians except acting as a clearing house for expatriate transfers and money-changing, experts familiar with the occupied territories say.

What was not curtailed by tight Israeli restrictions was curbed by the unavailability of applying sound banking practices. Palestinian importers have

to provide full cover for their letter of credit and the banks in the occupied territories only act as an intermediary to transfer the funds to banks outside after clearance from the Israeli authorities. None of the banks actually issues letter of credit — a key banking instrument inevitable for payment for imports under safe banking procedures.

Many people have no or little access to commercial credits for a simple reason: They refuse to mortgage their land as collateral for loans since they fear that if they default on repayment the bank could seize the property and sell it to Jewish settlers — a politically explosive proposition.

With no collateral, banks are reluctant to extend credit since there is no effective law enforcement. Debtors could simply refuse to pay and there is little any bank could do

about it.

Recent reports said the Cairo-Amman Bank has stopped accepting deposits since it exceeded a deposit ceiling. This has forced savings back to under-the-mattress, mostly in gold and Jordanian dinar, the currency in circulation — and widely accepted even in Israel proper — despite the occupation authorities' efforts to dominate the scene with shekels.

There are no safe deposit vaults or automatic telling machines — a feature available in some of the most backward Third World countries but denied to the Palestinians by the occupation authorities.

A group of Palestinian businessmen from Ramallah in the West Bank got together a few months ago and proposed the establishment of a fully Palestinian-owned and oper-

ated commercial bank in the occupied territories to make up for the shortcomings.

The capital of the proposed Commercial Bank of Palestine, which is expected to be operational in early 1994, is JD 10 million, around 40 per cent of it raised by the businessmen and the rest to be raised through a public flotation of shares expected soon.

As and when the Commercial Bank of Palestine takes off, it will be the first fully Palestinian-owned indigenous bank in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

As such, the new bank is expected to play a key role in the rebuilding of the West Bank and Gaza Strip with international funds.

Again, it will face the same problem: Law enforcement in cases of defaulting debtors. But a Palestinian police force

under training and expected to be deployed in the autonomous areas envisaged under the Israeli-PLO accord could help to a large extent.

Furthermore, since the bank is Palestinian owned and the backdrop of a decline in settlement activities, the Palestinians could be more prone to meet with the banking requirement of collateral in land with the feeling of security that defaulters' property would not be sold to Jewish settlers.

The Wall Street Journal reported last week that the bank was training about 12 of its future staff at Jordanian banks.

The journal quoted Riyadh Al Suleh, financial manager of a pharmaceutical company and a founding partner of the Commercial Bank of Palestine as saying that the bank would restrict its lending in the initial stages to people whom it knows personally.

## Foreign debt of Muslim states put at \$495b

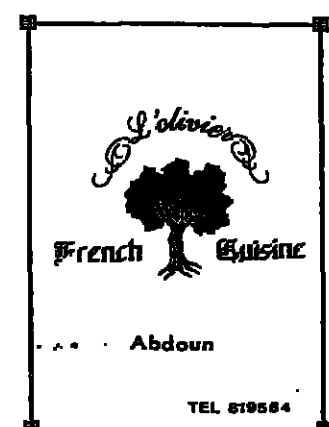
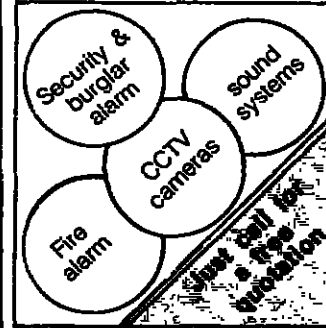
MANAMA (R) — The total foreign debt of Muslim countries that are members of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) will rise by the end of 1993 to \$495 billion, the Gulf News Agency reported Saturday.

It quoted an IDB report as saying the total foreign debt of member states was \$484 billion in 1992. The report will be submitted to finance and economy ministers of 45 Muslim states at an annual IDB board meeting in Gambia on Nov. 2.

The 47-member IDB is the development arm of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference. It offers members and Muslim minorities in other countries long-term soft loans to finance development projects and encourage inter-Islamic trade.

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ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR SATURDAY 09/10/1993				
COMPANY'S NAME	TRADED VOLUME	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
ARAB BANK	218,410	186,000	187,000	188,000
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	20,605	6,210	6,220	6,230
BANK OF JORDAN	13,063	4,250	4,250	4,400
MIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK	25,996	3,020	3,040	3,020
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	31,176	4,050	4,020	4,040
THE MIDDLE EAST BANK	132,353	2,480	2,480	2,480
JORDAN KIDNEY BANK	157,667	3,210	3,220	3,210
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	17,263	4,010	4,020	4,100
SECURITIES BANK	21,235	1,800	1,810	1,850
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	29,491	1,960	1,860	1,850
ARAB BANKING CORPORATION/JORDAN	440	4,300	4,400	4,400
PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK	47,226	2,670	2,690	2,660
JORDAN ASSURANCE	10,875	3,900	3,900	3,950
JORDAN FRENCH INSURANCE	7,574	3,590	3,620	3,610
JORDAN GULF INSURANCE	25,700	3,600	3,600	3,600
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	132,353	2,480	2,480	2,480
FREEZ DISTRICT ELECTRICITY	66	1,320	1,310	1,310
ARAB DISTRICT ELECTRICITY	1,263	5,000	5,000	5,000
JORDAN TOURISM & SPA COMPLEX	11,971	0,170	0,160	0,160
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	9,985	4,140	4,110	4,100
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	3,390	1,700	1,700	1,690
JORDAN GULF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	17,560	0,570	0,570	0,580
PETRA ENTERPRISE & DEVELOPMENT LEASING	2,253	0,980	0,970	1,020
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	917	2,020	2,000	2,020
ACHIEVEMENT HOTEL, RESTAURANT & SERVICE	6,712	1,710	1,710	1,700
JORDAN PAPER & PUBLISHING /AD-DUSTOUR	2,750	11,000	11,000	11,000
UNITED MEDIA DAY & CONSUMER GOODS	25,078	2,290	2,280	2,290
ARAB LITER. FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION	28,596	2,780	2,780	2,790
THE JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES	396,473	3,170	3,180	3,140
JORDAN PHOSPHATE INDUSTRIES	32,120	10,470	10,400	10,550
JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY	2,668	10,470	10,400	10,550
THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL	63,280	16,800	16,700	16,800
THE JORDAN MOISTURE MILLS	12,086	11,450	11,500	11,480
ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING	118,597	8,800	8,830	8,780
JORDAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	51,763	3,400	3,400	3,400
JORDAN DAIRY	5,383	2,730	2,780	2,800
THE JORDANIAN TEXTILE MANUFACTURING	1,302	3,900	3,900	3,900
ARAB CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	1,147	24,150	22,940	22,940
THE JORDANIAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	12,822	2,880	2,850	2,850
SPINNING & WEAVING	40,590	2,510	2,550	2,580
JORDAN GLASS INDUSTRIES	5,483	0,400	0,390	0,380
ARAB GLASS INDUSTRIES & INVESTMENT	63,280	16,800	16,700	16,800
ARAB INVESTMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE	9,724	2,520	2,610	2,590
ARAB ALUMINIUM INDUSTRIES	53,200	10,400	10,400	9,900
ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING	1,238	1,780	1,790	1,780
JORDAN MEDICAL CORPORATION	1,416	0,300	0,310	0,320
INDUSTRIAL STEEL INDUSTRIES	128,705	3,810	3,850	3,880
JORDAN PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	1,530	6,000	6,000	6,000
JORDAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	1,302	3,900	3,900	3,900
JORDAN ROUGHNESS INDUSTRIES	9,050	7,000	7,000	7,000
UNIVERSAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	1,302	3,900	3,900	3,900
JORDAN INDUSTRIES & PETRO-CHEMICAL	7,288	0,420	0,410	0,410
JORDAN PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	81,154	3,400	3,400	3,400
NATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING	37,322	3,800	3,850	3,880
JORDAN PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	10,680	1,470	1,480	1,480
ARAB CENTER FOR PHARM. & CHEMICALS	5,763	3,850	3,890	3,940
JORDAN KIDNEY CO. FOR MED. & FOOD PROD.	8,564	1,970	1,980	1,970
JORDAN KIDNEY CO. /AMMAN	4,463	4,460	4,460	4,460
KINDER INVESTMENT	44,646	5,420	5,420	5,420
UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES				
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>1,949,777</b>			
NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARKET				
TRADED VOLUME IN THE PARALLEL MARKET				
		202543		
		396364		

## Financial Markets

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U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close Thu 7 10 93	New York Close Thu 8 10 93
Sterling Pound	1.5230	1.5345
Deutsche Mark	1.6238	1.6038
Swiss Franc	1.4250	1.4053
French Franc	5.6765	5.6250
Japanese Yen	104.94	106.05
European Currency Unit	1.1654**	1.1773

PRECIOUS METALS				
Basis: 9/10/1993				
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz
Gold	359.75	7.10	Silver	4.37
				0.090

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 9/10/1993

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6690	0.6910
Sterling Pound	1.0562	1.0615
Deutsche Mark	0.4290	0.4311
Swiss Franc	0.4901	0.4926
French Franc	0.1223	0.1229
Japanese Yen	0.6479	0.6511
Dutch Guilder	0.3815	0.3834
Swedish Krona	*****	*****
Italian Lira	0.0434	0.0438
Belgian Franc	*****	*****

Other Currencies Date: 9/10/1993

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8030	1.8350
Lebanese Lira	0.059320	0.040450
Saudi Riyal	0.1834	0.1851
Kuwaiti Dinar	5.2550	2.3200
Qatari Riyal	0.1867	0.1877
Egyptian Pound	0.2050	0.2220
Omani Riyal	1.7570	1.7950
UAE Dirham	0.1867	0.1877
Greek Drachma	0.2895	0.3275
Cypriot Pound	1.3650	1.3975

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## Croats pound Muslims in Mostar

SARAJEVO (R) — Croatian forces unleashed a heavy mortar barrage on Muslim fighters and civilians trapped in the southern Bosnian town of Mostar, U.N. spokesman Colonel Bill Aikman said Saturday.

At least 46 Croat mortar bombs hit the encircled Muslim sector of Mostar during the night as fighting increased between the two sides, who are former allies in the war against Bosnian Serbs.

A struggle for territory between Croats and Muslims has sharpened since peace negotiations broke down last month and prompted fears among U.N. peacekeepers that the 18-month conflict could worsen again.

Col. Aikman, spokesman in Sarajevo for the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), reported fighting between Muslims and Croats around Novi Travnik and Gornji Vakuf in central Bosnia as well as in Mostar.

Mortar bombs exploded inside a British U.N. base at Gornji Vakuf Friday, forcing soldiers to shelter in bunkers. There were no casualties, but

vehicles and radio equipment were damaged. Serb forces shelled the Bosnian capital Sarajevo and Col. Aikman told reporters: "Even more seriously, the snipers are active again."

Sarajevo snipers have claimed hundreds of civilian casualties during the war over Bosnia's break from former Yugoslavia in 1992.

Bosnia's Muslim president, Alija Izetbegovic, and Croatian President Franjo Tudjman met in Vienna Friday but apparently made no breakthrough to revive peace talks. They discussed proposed changes to the peacekeeping force in Bosnia, but made no mention of new moves to resolve major differences on the Geneva peace package.

They did, however, issue a joint proposal calling on NATO to send peacekeeping troops to Bosnia and Croatia. It was not clear if they intended the Western alliance to supplement or replace the current United Nations peacekeeping mission.

Talks between Croats and Muslims made more progress in Zagreb, where the interna-

tional Red Cross (ICRC) confirmed that the Bosnian government army and Croatian military forces had agreed in principle to free more than 5,000 prisoners of war.

A ICRC spokeswoman said Bosnian Foreign Minister Haris Silajdzic and Croatian Foreign Minister Mate Granic reached the agreement at a meeting attended by ICRC representatives.

But she told Reuters: "ICRC delegates will have to talk with every person before release and there are logistical problems to be solved, which all requires time."

U.N. military officials said they helped to arrange talks between rebels and government army officials in the northwest Bosnian enclave of Bihac, where the Muslim-on-Muslim violence has added a deadly new dimension to the Bosnian conflict.

Rebel leader Fikret Abdic met a Bosnian army commander, General Rasim Delic, Friday, but they were unable to reach an agreement, Sarajevo Radio and U.N. sources said. They were due to meet again

Saturday. U.N. peacekeeping forces said clashes elsewhere on the war fronts across Bosnia were reaching a "disturbing" level.

"What we are concerned about is it building up again to a significant conflict," said Col. Aikman. "It's localised, but the signs are disturbing. There's no doubt about it."

UNPROFOR sources said their aid escorts were being targeted in central Bosnia, while Muslim-controlled Sarajevo Radio said seven people were killed when Bosnian Croats shelled Gornji Vakuf, west of Sarajevo.

The UNHCR suspended the evacuation of sick and wounded from Bosnia, accusing the warring parties of manipulating the operation for political ends.

Saying the situation was "more alarming than ever" the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogata, launched a \$700 million appeal to fund humanitarian operations in ex-Yugoslavia until June next year. She said her agency expected to look after almost 4.3 million people over the coming months.



Fans of the conservative New Democracy Party cheer the speech of its leader Constantine Mitsotakis during the party's last political rally Friday in Athens (AFP photo)

## Socialists lead polls day before Greek election

ATHENS (R) — Greece's veteran Socialist leader Andreas Papandreu appeared headed for victory Saturday, leading public opinion polls a day before general election.

His old-time rival Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis was trailing behind by 6.7 per cent in the latest nationwide poll conducted Wednesday by the independent MRB Polling Institute.

Mr. Mitsotakis appeared unable to narrow the gap despite his dozens of appearances across the country during the month-long election campaign and his repeated warnings that a Socialist victory would spell a disaster for the nation.

According to the poll, the Socialist PASOK Party sustained its lead and was favoured by 39.9 per cent of those questioned. The ruling conservative New Democracy received 33.2 per cent of vote intention while 6.6 per cent of voters were undecided.

Under Greece's election law the party with the largest popular vote is almost certain to have an absolute majority in the 300-seat parliament.

In a campaign marred by ugly personal attacks, New Democracy portrayed Mr. Papandreu as a frail and disoriented old man with nothing to offer but more debts, taxes and dangerous foreign policy which could get Greece embroiled in a Balkan war.

Mr. Papandreu, 74, who lost power in 1989 after eight years as Greece's first Socialist prime minister, was dragged down amid charges of corruption, open-heart surgery and an extramarital affair with a young air hostess.

His PASOK Party attacked the conservative government, accusing it of mud-slinging, dishonesty and tyranny. Mr. Mitsotakis, also 74, has blamed a group of media magnates for undermining his efforts to cut Greece's public spending and huge state deficits and to turn the economy around.

But his popularity has been hit hard by a three-year austerity programme that froze public salaries, raised prices for public services and cut back on Mr. Papandreu's welfare policies of the 1980s.

## 3 killed in Transkei raid were guerrillas — Pretoria

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) — The government Saturday defended a raid into neighbouring Transkei. Saying three of the five people killed by South African troops were members of a black guerrilla organisation responsible for killing white civilians.

Deputy Minister of Law and Order Gert Myburgh, in a statement issued in Pretoria, said three of the five killed in the Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA).

He said photographs of the three were positively identified as APLA members by APLA guerrillas in police custody. The five were killed by South African Defence Force (SADF) soldiers in a pre-dawn raid Friday on a home in a suburb of the Transkei capital Umtata.

The strike caused a storm of protest when APLA's parent body, the hardline Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), said the five were three brothers and two cousins aged between 12 and 19-years-old.

The Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA) has vowed to strike back "where it hurts the most" to avenge the raid, according to reports Saturday.

"We won't take this lying down. We'll respond in a manner which will be felt by the enemy," the Johannesburg Star quoted APLA spokesman in Transkei, Peter Mayekane, as saying.

The father of the three boys and owner of the house, Sigquibo Mpendulo, said he was a PAC member but denied the five youths were involved in guerrilla activities. But Mr. Myburgh said Saturday that three of the dead had been identified as having undergone military training at APLA facilities inside Transkei and that two of them were at least 18-years old.

And although the other two had so far not been identified, he said, "preliminary investigations indicate that they collaborated closely with APLA members" at the Umtata house.

"Weapons and ammunition as well as training documents seized by the SADF at the house confirm that the residence was indeed an APLA facility."

## City Opera debuts Marilyn

NEW YORK (AFP) — The life and death of Marilyn Monroe. The subject of numerous books and movies, took on the stuff of opera here this week for three days of sold-out performances by the New York City Opera. The world premiere Wednesday of Marilyn, a work commissioned by the City Opera, met with mixed reviews. The New York Times critic said Friday "there will be very little in this opera to justify three hours of painful attention." A day earlier, the Washington Post reviewer said it differently: "At its best moments...Marilyn is a powerful and memorable work of art."

The work mixes the myth and the real life of the movie star who committed suicide in 1962. In a series of vignettes, Marilyn, played by soprano Kathryn Geronzi, explains to her psychiatrist her fears and need for love. She meets a senator, resembling Robert Kennedy, who falls in love with her but then drops her. An ex-husband Rick, a composite of Monroe's three husbands — James Dougherty, Joe DiMaggio and Arthur Miller — tries unsuccessfully to understand his desperate wife. Composer Ezra Laderman's eclectic music includes jazz, boogie-woogie and atonal elements. The libretto was written by Norman Rosten, a friend of the late actress and author of the book Marilyn: An Untold Story.

## Photo of artist's hands auctioned off at \$398,500

NEW YORK (AFP) — An anonymous bidder snapped up a photograph of the artist Georgia O'Keeffe's hands taken by her husband, Alfred Stieglitz, for \$398,500 Friday, reportedly the highest auction price paid for a photo. "Georgia O'Keeffe: A Portrait — hands and Thimble," dated 1930, had been expected to draw between \$100,000 and \$150,000. It was sold from the collection of the family of Aline Meyer Liebman, a friend of the photographer. Rick Wester, who heads the photographic department at Christie's auction house, said several bidders were active in the \$200,000 range, and that the "field narrowed to two when the price moved above \$300,000." An anonymous telephone bidder sealed the deal at the record price, Mr. Wester said. Stieglitz, who died in 1946, gave the picture to Liebman in 1921. O'Keeffe died in 1986.

## Couple claims 'Regarding Henry' is their story

EVANSVILLE, Ind. (AP) — A couple filed a \$100 million lawsuit claiming the movie Regarding Henry, about a man suffering from amnesia, is based on their own life story. The lawsuit on behalf of John and Joan Cox was filed this week in federal court in New York City. Regarding Henry is the story of a New York lawyer, played by Harrison Ford, who suffers brain damage and amnesia after being shot in the head during a robbery. Mr. Cox, a lawyer in Evansville, also suffered severe head injuries and amnesia, in a 1979 motorcycle accident. Mrs. Cox wrote a manuscript about their experience and sent it to several agents and publishers in the late 1980s, but it was always returned, the lawsuit says. Regarding Henry was released in 1991 but the couple didn't see it until renting the videotape in March 1992. "Minutes into the film, I was so upset," Mrs. Cox said. "I thought, 'this is my material. This is (John's) story.' Of course John recognised it, too." She compared the movie with her manuscript; the lawsuit claims there are at least 108 similarities. The lawsuit names as defendants Paramount Pictures, director and co-producer Mike Nichols, screenplay author Jeffrey Abrams and others. The defendants have a month to respond to the complaint.

## Genderless baptisms deemed invalid

BOSTON (AP) — A Roman Catholic priest told several families that baptisms he performed were declared invalid because he altered the wording of the Holy Trinity to delete references to gender. Instead of using the traditional "Father, Son and Holy Spirit," the Rev. William Larkin baptized children "in the name of God our creator, through Jesus the Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit." "It was an initiative on my own to use a vocabulary that is more sensitive to women...that may speak more deeply to all of us," Rev. Larkin said. Rev. Larkin ministers part time at the Paulist Centre in Boston.

## New European human rights deal launched

VIENNA (R) — A new European human rights deal which will eventually cover former Soviet republics and a string of ex-Communist East Bloc countries was launched in Vienna Saturday.

A Council of Europe summit will approve a declaration establishing a revamped European human rights court and laying the foundations for continent-wide laws to protect national minorities.

The document, to be signed by the 32 heads of state and government attending the Council of Europe's first summit, called for work to begin on a new European convention on minorities.

A group of experts will also examine the existing laws of member states to ensure racism and anti-semitism are checked.

"Europe is a source of immense hope which must not be destroyed by territorial ambitions, the resurgence of aggressive nationalism...intolerance or totalitarian ideologies," the Vienna Declaration said.

A copy was made available before the final ceremony.

With an eye to the war in former Yugoslavia, leaders including French President Francois Mitterrand told the two-day summit that nationalism and ethnic rivalry were the new cancer eating at the heart of Europe following the fall of communism.

Council members agreed to overhaul the present cumbersome system of dealing with human rights violations and to upgrade the part-time European Court of Human Rights into a full-time, independent body.

"This is one of the key achievements of this summit," a council official told Reuters. He said the current European court took on average five years to deal with cases which first had to be examined by the European Commission of Human Rights.

"At the moment we have part-time judges from different countries meeting for one week a month. The new court will be permanent," he said. Individuals with grievances will still have to exhaust all legal channels in their own country before they can bring their case to the Strasbourg-based court.

Hopeless cases will be quickly sifted out by a panel of three judges instead of being studied by the commission, which under current conditions can itself take up to two years.

Another council source said the new court would probably be housed in a futuristic building now nearing completion across the Rhine from the council's Palais De L'Europe Headquarters in Strasbourg.

With nine new members since 1989 and seven more waiting in the wings, including Russia, the court will not be short of work.

"The European Convention on Human Rights — undoubtedly the world's most successful human rights instrument — has become a victim of its own success," according to the council.

In 1981, 404 cases were brought before the court. By 1992 it had shot up to 1,861 and the pace is quickening.

## Russia jump starts the CIS

MOSCOW (AFP) — The Commonwealth of Independent States has boosted its membership and revamped its ties under intense efforts by Russia to jump start the shaky alliance and turn it into a major force in the former Soviet Union.

The entry of the Caucasus Republic of Azerbaijan two weeks ago coupled with Georgia's announcement Friday that it planned to join the fold has brought to 11 the number of former Soviet republics that have some form of membership in the CIS.

The alliance, once described by Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk as a "stillborn child," has been up until recently a fragile and ineffective forum whose members rarely agreed on issues of common concern.

Only the three Baltic states completely snubbed the alliance and turned to Scandinavian and European countries for assistance in making the break with Moscow.

The entry of Georgia, a firm holdout in the movement towards reconstituting the new post-Soviet alliance, illustrated the difficulty incurred by the "newly-independent states" in asserting their autonomy and

breaking the mold of centralised communist rule.

"I viewed my decision to enter the CIS as the last chance to save my country and avoid civil war," Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze, quoted by Interfax, said following a meeting Friday in Moscow with his counterparts from Russia, Armenia and Azerbaijan.

"We were presented with the following condition: If you want gas, oil, natural resources and raw materials, then join the CIS," the Georgian leader added.

The main incentive for Georgia and for Azerbaijan in joining the CIS however lay in a 1992 CIS collective security treaty that provides for the deployment, if needed, of Russian troops to defend the borders of Commonwealth member-states.

For Georgia, that would mean dispatching Russian Border Guards to prevent arms supplies and volunteer fighters from crossing from Russia into Georgia's breakaway Abkhazia region, where separatist rebels recently succeeded in expelling Georgian troops after 13 months of war.

In neighbouring Azerbaijan,

the national army has been losing the war against separatist Armenians in the enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh and the rebels now control 20 per cent of southwestern Azerbaijan.

Under the CIS defence alliance, Russian troops could be called upon to cut through the three corridors linking Armenia proper to Nagorno-Karabakh, crushing the decades-old dream held by the enclave's Armenian majority of being reunited with their brethren in Armenia.

Former Soviet republics have not however sought membership in the CIS only to stamp out ethnic conflicts with the backing of Russian troops.

Ukraine, which for months denounced the CIS as Russia's forum for exerting its "big brother" influence, last month signed an economic union treaty that provides for coordination of monetary and customs policies.

The treaty increases pressure on the time member-states of the economic union to implement free-market reforms based on deficit reduction and curbing inflation, in line with Russia's efforts to meet targets set by the International Monetary Fund.

## More bombs rock London

LONDON (R) — Two suspected IRA bombs rocked parts of North London Friday night, wrecking buildings but causing no injuries, security sources said.

One bomb went off just before midnight near the main Staples Corner road junction in North London and the second exploded in the West Hampstead area, badly damaging a fire station.

Police anti-terrorist squad officers were quickly on the scene. Security sources said they believed the blasts were the work of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

## Russian troops say no doubts Yeltsin was right

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Five days after they were sent in to resolve a conflict that pushed Russia to the brink of civil war, soldiers in combat gear basked in the autumn sunshine smoking cigarettes and enjoying the calm after the storm.

About 1,200 troops, camped at the Moscow Military Air Base Khodynskoye Field, had been drafted in by President Boris Yeltsin to expel rebels from the White House parliament building on the banks of the Moscow River.

Guards in flak jackets with Kalashnikov rifles strung over their shoulders stood outside a row of green camouflaged tents — knowing the enemy had been eliminated and they could relax.

Even though many of the more than 170 people who died in clashes between parliament supporters and forces loyal to Mr. Yeltsin were innocent bystanders, not one soldier appeared to have any doubts that Mr. Yeltsin's decision was justified.

"It's terrible when you have to fire on your own people," said Sergei, a 22-year-old officer with a motorised rifle unit of the Kantemir Tank Division. "But there was no other way."

"We didn't make any special preparations. We weren't expecting a full-scale battle," said Major Sergei Grinenko, the division's psychologist. "It was the first time in their lives

our troops shot at people and not just targets."

Many soldiers had expected a re-run of the failed coup of August 1991, when hardliners announced a state of emergency and summoned military units to protect strategic buildings.

On that occasion the Kantemir and Taman divisions, based near Moscow, rallied to Mr. Yeltsin's support and sent troops to him at the White House.

Three civilians were killed then in a clash with troops under orders from the hardline Emergency Committee, and the soldiers were soon withdrawn.

This time the Kantemir troops were again on Yeltsin's side from start to finish. The president had visited them a month before to assure himself of their backing. He also sounded out the support of the Tula and Ryazan Paratroopers.

"We were defending the motherland," said one paratrooper from the Tula Division, which was on alert for a week before it stormed the White House Monday.

"People voted for the president, they showed their support then, they (the rebels) had no right to defy him," he said.

Since the break-up of the former Soviet Union the military has been in turmoil, racked by inflation-hit wages, low

morale and a dire shortage of accommodations.

When Mr. Yeltsin called army units to Moscow, experts doubted the loyalty of the military and speculated as to whether some divisions might defect to the rebel parliament's side and plunge Russia into civil war.

The Kantemir Tank Division, the Tula Paratroopers and Taman Division remain in the capital to guard strategic buildings for the duration of the curfew.

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Pavel Grachev said in an interview published Friday not panic, but concern about the best harvest and traffic jams, delayed the arrival of armour and troops to battle the hardliners.

There have been reports President Yeltsin and his top aides were confused, unprepared and paralysed with indecision Sunday after fierce street fighting threw government forces into disarray.

But Mr. Grachev, in an interview with the newspaper Moskovsky Komsomolets, described a calm scene in which the Kremlin leadership considered everything from the latest to motorists returning from their weekend homes.

"There were no confused people in the Kremlin," Mr. Grachev said. "The president was confidently in charge. The prime minister immediately

## Report blames Koresh for cult deaths

WASHINGTON (R) — Cult leader David Koresh, not flaws in the FBI raid on the Branch Davidian cult compound, caused the fiery deaths of more than 70 of his Branch Davidian followers near Waco, Texas, last April, the U.S. Justice Department said Friday.

"The fire appears to be an act of mass suicide or an act of mass murder or a combination of the two," former U.S. Prosecutor Edward Dennis told a news conference in releasing the results of his investigation into the 51-day siege that ended with the controversial

assault by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) last April 19. Mr. Dennis charged that Koresh, in one last act of manipulation, "choreographed" his own death and the deaths of his followers in a confrontation with federal authorities to fulfill his own apocalyptic prophecies.

"This was the final act of a man who held himself out to be God," Mr. Dennis said, charging that Koresh before the assault planned on setting the compound ablaze.

The report concluded: "The deaths of Koresh, his followers and their children...were not the result of a flaw in the (raid) plan or the negotiating strategy."

A Treasury Department report released last week focused on the original federal attempt to storm the compound near Waco, Texas, on Feb. 20 and was highly critical of officials of Treasury's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, which conducted that initial assault.

The Justice Department report absolved Attorney General Janet Reno and other top FBI officials of any blame.

Mr. Grachev said he decided to wait until evening to roll tanks and armoured personnel carriers into Moscow.

"It was Sunday, after lunch, people were coming from their country dachas, and if we had moved in a tank column, there would have been traffic jams and incidents," he said.

Besides, soldiers were busy helping state farmers bring in their crops.

"It was feared that the beet roots, carrots and cabbages, 50 per cent of which were still in the fields, would remain under snow," Mr. Grachev said.

"The government decided not to call the men off the fields," Mr. Grachev said. The White House assault, which finally began about 7 a.m. Monday, could have been ordered five hours earlier.



## Nigeria heads for World Cup

ALGIERS (AFP) — Nigeria wrote themselves into the history books Friday by winning their first ever place in the World Cup finals with a 1-1 draw against Algeria.

The 'Super Eagles' only needed a draw to pip the 'Elephants' of the Ivory Coast on goal average and qualify from Group A in the African zone qualifiers.

They almost went one better, with right winger Kenedi giving them a 1-0 lead after 19 minutes. The goal prompted the Nigerians to fall back with their own half, venturing out only for a rare counter attack.

However, everything changed when Tassafout scored a soft equaliser for Algeria in the 60th minute.

Rahim's harmless cross into the middle was easily picked out by Agbonwure but the Nigerian goalkeeper let the ball slip out to Tassafout, who gratefully sent it into the back of the net.

The home side, who were without five of their first team regulars and lost playmaker Ait Abderahmane in the first quarter of an hour through injury. Then went looking for a winner.

And they very nearly found it just one minute from the final whistle. Tassafout's shot had Agbonwure completely beaten but the ball was deflected away from danger by a defender.

Instead of a moral boosting victory Algeria who had been trounced 4-1 in Lagos. Had to settle for a face-saving draw before their home crowd.

The Nigerians had secured the first of three slots for the African continent in the 1994 finals. The others, from Group B and C, will be decided Sunday.

Meanwhile Nigerians put the country's political strife briefly to one side at the weekend and took to the streets in their thousands to

celebrate the country's first qualification for the World Cup finals.

Parts of Lagos were transformed into massive traffic jams within less than an hour of the draw with Algeria in Algiers while crowds of pedestrians roamed the streets and accompanied the car horns with chants of "USA here we come."

The raucous scenes were in sharp contrast to a few hours earlier when the city was like a ghost town with everyone indoors watching the crucial match on television.

Newspapers Saturday saluted the "historic victory" with banner front page headlines.

Nigeria's ascent to the top of African football had long been anticipated. They won the World Junior Cup in 1985 and again this year but have until now failed to fulfil their potential at senior level.

## Palestinian national team proud to play French

JERICHO (AP) — Tears of pride welled up in Kamal Hadiyeh's eyes as the sound of the Palestinian anthem filled Jericho's rickety stadium and for the first time the Palestinian national soccer team lined up to play Friday.

"Until now I didn't quite believe in this peace agreement, but seeing my team and hearing my anthem is changing my mind. This is real," said Hadiyeh, a 30-year-old waiter from Jerusalem.

The game, won by the Palestinians 1-0, was a metaphor of things to come for the Palestinians on their way to autonomy — lack of organisation and initial chaos, eventually overcome by fierce nationalism and pride in their newfound freedom.

The single goal against Varities Club de France was made 20 minutes into the second half by Mahmoud Jarad, an unemployed 24-year-old from the West Bank refugee camp of Askar. It sent hundreds of fans screaming and shouting onto the pitch hugging and kissing their players.

Yannick Noah, retired tennis player and pop star, was good-natured about his team's loss.

"When they scored the goal, to see this happen was a very special moment for me," said Noah, sweat running down his face after playing on the sandy lot in scorching heat.

Many of the thousands of spectators had come as much to indulge in the new emotion of nationalism as to watch soccer.

They cheered and clapped wildly when the national team hastily assembled within a week — ran a lap with a huge



French soccer star Michel Platini tackles an unidentified Palestinian player during the French AII Stars Palestinian team match in Jericho (AFP photo)

Palestinian flag, and the anthem "My Country, My Country" sounded from the loudspeakers.

"Flags for a shekel, flags for a shekel," yelled a vendor outside the grounds, hawking key chains in the national colours — red, green, white and black.

Wearing those colours, the Palestinian team had only six days practice time before Friday. But coach Arassim Younis said he hoped this crew would be the core of a real Palestinian national team that would very soon compete in all international events.

"This is the first time I see my players on the field with the flag rising behind them. We are free now," Younis said.

Saeb Erekat, one of PLO chief Yasser Arafat's lieutenants, said the Palestinians had already won the game before the starting whistle.

"It's really a dream come true, the first time a Palestinian national team is playing on Palestinian soil with a flag hoisted," said the bearded professor who is also a negotiator in the autonomy talks with Israel.

The game was delayed by nearly an hour because excited fans ignored pleas to move off the field. There were just a few bleachers and no barriers, so everyone kept pushing forward toward the field to get a better view. It took a few burly men with clubs to get clear the pitch.

The captain of the French team, Alain Gresse, pleaded at one point: "Please get off the ground and then we will start to play football for peace."

The French, a collection of celebrities and retired athletes, including former soccer great Michel Platini, were scheduled to play an Israeli team Saturday.

The initial chaos in Jericho left some Palestinians wondering whether this was an omen for their state in the making.

"There are many mistakes in the organisation because we don't have authorities yet to run things," said Edmond Abu Falha, a 33-year-old engineer from the West Bank town of Bethlehem. "When Arafat comes here all this will change," he added hopefully.

## Seles to make comeback in December

DUBLIN (Agencies) — Monica Seles, out of action since being stabbed by a spectator at a tournament last April, is to return to competitive tennis in Dublin in December.

"Her agents have confirmed that she will be there," a spokeswoman for the Dublin event said Friday. "As far as we're concerned, she'll be coming."

Seles, 19, has not played on the circuit for six months since a man jumped from the spectator stands and stuck a meat-trimming knife into her back during a break between games at the Hamburg Open.

The Yugoslav former world number one, who has slipped to fourth in the rankings during her absence, has a bye to the Dublin tournament semifinals to be played December 4.

Seles' projected opponent is Martina Navratilova. Defending champion Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain faces either American Mary Joe Fernandez or Germany's Barbara Rittner in the other semifinal.

The man accused of stabbing Seles was arrested at the tournament immediately after the attack. His trial on a charge of causing grievous bodily harm starts next Tuesday.

Seles invited to Evert charity event

Seles has returned to the practice court for the first time since being stabbed and has been invited to play at a



Former world No. 1 Monica Seles

Chris Evert celebrity event in late October.

"We've talked to Monica," Evert said Thursday. "She is just now starting to hit some balls."

The celebrity event in Boca Raton that would be her first public match since she was stabbed during a tournament in Germany April 30.

Seles' agent, Stephanie Tolleson of Cleveland, Ohio, was not immediately available Friday to discuss Seles' plans.

Evert has invited Seles to join the field for the Chris Evert-Ellese pro-celebrity tennis classic Oct. 30-31 at the Boca Raton Resort and Club.

Evert is trying to persuade a couple of top pro players to join former U.S. President George Bush, singer Michael Bolton, American baseball legend Pete Rose and other

celebrities for the event that would raise money for Chris Evert charities.

Evert said the main thing that might keep Seles away is her pride.

"Monica would want to be 100 per cent," Evert said. "I'm not even sure if she's in 100 per cent shape."

If Seles plays it would be her first playing appearance since being stabbed.

Guenther Parche said he stabbed Seles, who was No. 1 in the world at the time, because he wanted Steffi Graf to regain the No. 1 ranking.

Seles, who lives in the Sarasota area, went into seclusion to recover from her injury, and Graf went on to win the French Open, Wimbledon and the U.S. Open. There have been conflicting reports on how much she has been practicing.

## Short's chance of championship is elusive

LONDON (AP) — Poor Nigel Short. A month ago he was the battling David of the chess world, out to conquer Goliath.

Today, the odds on him becoming world chess champion are on a par with the Loch Ness monster turning up.

To be fair, Short's chances of defeating Garry Kasparov were never very good. Kasparov, after all, is the highest-rated player in chess history. But after weeks of hype, ex-

perts and amateurs had expected Short to win at least a few games.

He has come maddeningly close, but more than half the 24-game match has been played already, without a Short victory.

"It's as if he's some sort of dazed sheep seized by the glare of a deadly cobra," said British grandmaster Raymond Keene, who brought the match to London. "He's played very well to

get winning positions — but then when it comes to putting the boot in, he seems to go blind or panic."

Short's shortcomings have taken their toll on the championship.

The Times, which put up most of the 1.7 million pounds (\$2.55 million) in prize money and spent hundreds of thousands of pounds trying to generate chess fever, insists its sponsorship has paid off.

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## U-19 Basketball Championship

### Jazireh, Hussein clash on 1st day

By Aileen Bannayan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — After the week-long action-packed international basketball tournament which ended Tuesday, basketball fans will have another busy month ahead as the Under-19 Basketball Championship begins Sunday with seven teams taking part.

The championship, one of the Jordan Basketball Federation's (JBF) annual activities alongside the First and Second Division competitions, is expected to witness some tough competition between the 1992 titleholders, Al Ahli, and second-placed Al Orthodori.

On the other hand, Al Jazireh will certainly not sit back and await the top two teams clash, but will rather seek to win their fourth title of the season after clinching the boys under-14 and under-16 as well as the women's titles by overcoming a 8-time basketball rivals Al Ahli and Al Orthodori.

The other four teams in the U-19 competition are Al Hussein Irbid, Al Abbasi, Al Mafrag and Abu Nusair.

After the first round ends Oct. 31 only the top four teams will qualify for the second round which ends Nov. 15.

Nine teams were originally slated to take part in the competition, which was scheduled for Sept. 20. However the JBF had to postpone its commencement as Al Jazireh announced a last minute withdrawal prompting a change of the announced schedule of matches. On Friday, Al Watani also informed the JBF of their decision to pull out.

After the pullout of Al Jazireh and Al Watani, Al Hussein Irbid, one of the regular teams in almost all the JBF's activities, have a very good chance of reaching the second round and are expected to give it their best shot.

Al Abbasi, one of the Second Division's best teams will try to beat Al Hussein. The other Second Division team, Abu Nusair, a relative newcomer to the game, and Third Division team Al Mafrag hope that their players will gain some experience in the competition which is scheduled to be followed by the under-22 championship to conclude the season.

Abu Nusair take on Al Orthodori, Al Ahli play Al Mafrag and Al Jazireh clash with Al Hussein on the competition's first day.

## Yzaga dumps Ivanisevic

SYDNEY (R) — Diminutive

peruvian Jaime Yzaga cut

defending champion Goran Ivanisevic down to size to reach the final of the Australian Indoor Men's Tennis Championship Saturday.

Unseeded Yzaga, 25, ranked 54 and the smallest player in the tournament at 170 cm tall. Took just 54 minutes to record a 6-3, 6-4 win over the fourth seed, who stands 23 cm taller.

It was Yzaga's third consecutive win over a seed after accounting for top seed Jim Courier in the quarter-finals and eighth-seeded Australian Wally Masur in earlier action.

He plays number six seed Petr Korda, from the Czech Republic, in Sunday's final. Korda booked his passage to the final with a comfortable victory over unseeded South African Wayne Ferreira 6-3, 6-2.

Navratilova moves into semifinals: In Zurich, top-seeded Martina Navratilova breezed past unseeded Miriam Oremans of the Netherlands, 6-2, 6-2, Friday to move into the semifinals of the \$750,000 European Indoors

tennis tournament. The 36-year-old American, who is bidding for her first European indoors title, will face 5th-seeded Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria Saturday.

Maleeva also encountered few problems in her quarter-final match, beating 6th-seeded Nathalie Tauziat of Switzerland, 6-4, 6-1. Tauziat had made it to the finals in Zurich in 1991, but she lost to Steffi Graf of Germany.

In other quarterfinal action, fourth-seeded Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere of Switzerland, Magdalena's eldest sister, beat No. 9 seed Natalia Zvereva of Belarus, 6-2, 7-5.

Maleeva-Fragniere will go against Stephanie Rodier of the Netherlands in the semifinals. Rodier put an end to the fast rise of unseeded Sandra Casic of the United States, 6-3, 6-4, in their quarterfinal match.

The 19-year-old American upset No. 2 seed Jana Novotna Wednesday and defeated Larissa Neiland-Savchenko of Latvia Thursday.

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## All eyes on Pippen as Bulls open training camp

DEERFIELD, Ill (AP) — Michael Jordan is out, Toni Kukoc is in, and the Chicago Bulls said Friday they know they have a big challenge ahead of them.

Two questions loomed large

as the three-time NBA champions opened training camp: How will the Bulls play without the retired Jordan? And who, if anyone, will step into his leadership role?

The obvious candidate to be

the team's new leader is All-Star forward Scottie Pippen, whose considerable skills have long been overshadowed by Jordan. Coach Phil Jackson left little doubt about what he wants from Pippen this season.

"I just patted him on the back and told him that's where the saddle is going to land," Jackson said.

"It's going to be a test by fire for him. He's perfectly capable of stepping in."

Pippen said he doesn't feel any additional pressure, but for the first time, all the cameras and microphones pointed at him as he stepped into the room.

"It's a great role," he said. "We're going to find out what we've got as a team."

"We can still win with what we've got. We've had to play games without Michael — not that we've won many."

The Bulls were built around Jordan's talent at both ends of the court.

"He's gone, and that changes everything," Jackson said.

In past years, he had asked several players to be less creative and to take supporting roles, especially point guard B. J. Armstrong and forward Horace Grant.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF  
& TAMMAM HIRSHCH  
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#### WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠KQ108 ♣AQJ5 ♠0void ♠AKJ362  
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you bid now?
- Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠A9832 ♣7 ♠J87 ♠A72  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
3 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
3 NT Pass ?  
What action do you take?
- Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠K94 ♠A109 ♠862 ♠QJ62  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ 1 ♠ ?  
What do you bid now?
- Q.4—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠KJ42 ♠AQJ10 ♠KQ9 ♠Q8  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?
- Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AKQ82 ♠1085 ♠KJ5 ♠J3  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?
- Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠QJ10 ♠A8732 ♠K85 ♠107  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ 1 ♠ ?  
What do you bid now?

<p><b>TODAY</b></p> <p><b>PHILADELPHIA</b></p> <p><b>BEETHOVEN</b></p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p> <p>A special show for children at 11 a.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays</p> <p><b>PROBLEM CHILD "2"</b></p>	<p><b>CONCORD</b></p> <p><b>CONCORD T</b></p> <p>Faten Hamamah - in</p> <p><b>Land of Dreams</b></p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p> <p><b>CONCORD IF</b></p> <p>Wesley Snipes - in</p> <p><b>New Jack City</b></p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 6:00, 8:15, 10:15</p>	<p><b>PLAZA</b></p> <p>Sharihan in:</p> <p>The greatest musical film</p> <p><b>"Crystal"</b></p> <p>Shows at 12:30, 3:00, 5:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p><b>Nabli Al Mashini Theatre</b></p> <p>presents a play entitled:</p> <p><b>Al Iim Nuron</b></p> <p>A popular political comedy</p> <p>Actors: Abder Issa, Daoud Jalajel, Hassan Al Shahr, Fuad Shomali</p> <p>In addition to other comedians</p> <p>Every night at 8:15</p> <p>Tickets are sold all day</p>	<p><b>Nabli &amp; Hamam's Tel: 625153</b></p> <p><b>AHLAN THEATRE</b></p> <p>The political comedy</p> <p><b>WELCOME ARAB SUMMIT</b></p> <p>Daily 3:00 p.m.</p> <p>The theatre closes Saturday and Sunday</p> <p>English synopsis available</p>
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# Yeltsin goes after regional Soviets; Gorbachev ready for a comeback

Combined agency dispatches

MOSCOW — Russian President Boris Yeltsin ordered a reform of local councils Saturday, dealing a death blow to the system of representative bodies that gave the name Soviet to the late communist superpower.

Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev meanwhile signalled he was considering a political comeback.

If the situation in Russia becomes such that I have to put aside everything to deal with Russian affairs, to save the country, I will do it," Mr. Gorbachev told the newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda in an interview published Saturday.

"I think we are on the brink of such a situation," added Mr. Gorbachev, who resigned as Soviet president in December 1991, four months after an abortive hardline coup paved the way for the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The former leader, as unpopular inside Russia as he is popular outside, was replying to a question about whether he planned to reenter politics. His comments mean he may be ready to stand in presidential elections scheduled for June.

Mr. Gorbachev described the final day of the Moscow fighting, when troops loyal to Mr. Yeltsin opened fire on a besieged parliament building with tanks and machineguns, as an act of revenge against political opponents.

"To my mind, what has happened around the White House (parliament) was an act of revenge, which cannot be justified," Mr. Gorbachev said.

"(Yeltsin and the parliament) started settling accounts with each other. As a result... we all washed ourselves with blood."

But opinion polls published by Russian newspapers this week show Mr. Yeltsin's popularity has risen since the crackdown on his opponents.

The weekly Argumenty I Fakty weekly paper said 71 per cent of people supported Mr. Yeltsin and his government. Seventy-eight per cent said Mr. Yeltsin's decision to use force was justified.

In Moscow a week-long state of emergency and curfew were extended for eight days, a sign that the situation in the Russian capital is far from normal after the bloody anti-Yeltsin revolt.

A Yeltsin decree ordered a special commission to work out plans by Oct. 15 for elections to new local councils in Russia's 66 regions and advised 22 semi-autonomous republics to follow suit.

The move, aimed at putting an end to the last relic of

communist rule, came five days after Mr. Yeltsin's tanks crushed the resistance of Russia's top legislature, the Supreme Soviet, which was dissolved on Sept. 21.

Officials say more than 140 people were killed in fighting, which started on Sunday in an attack by pro-communist rebels on a television centre in Moscow and ended on Monday when Mr. Yeltsin's forces seized the parliament building.

On Saturday a separate Yeltsin order said the state of emergency, introduced on Oct. 3 and due to expire on Sunday afternoon, would now last until 5 a.m. (0200 GMT) on Monday Oct. 18.

"There are good reasons for prolonging the state of emergency," said a Yeltsin spokesman, but he declined to say what these reasons were.

Saturday's action could have a great impact on Russians on a local level. Many Russians outside Moscow have felt removed from the president's long power struggle with parliament, but Saturday's decree touches officials in even the smallest Russian village.

In an address on nationwide television Wednesday, Mr. Yeltsin criticised the local councils and urged them to disband.

"I have no doubt that if the rebels had been successful, the majority of Soviets would have supported them," Mr. Yeltsin said.

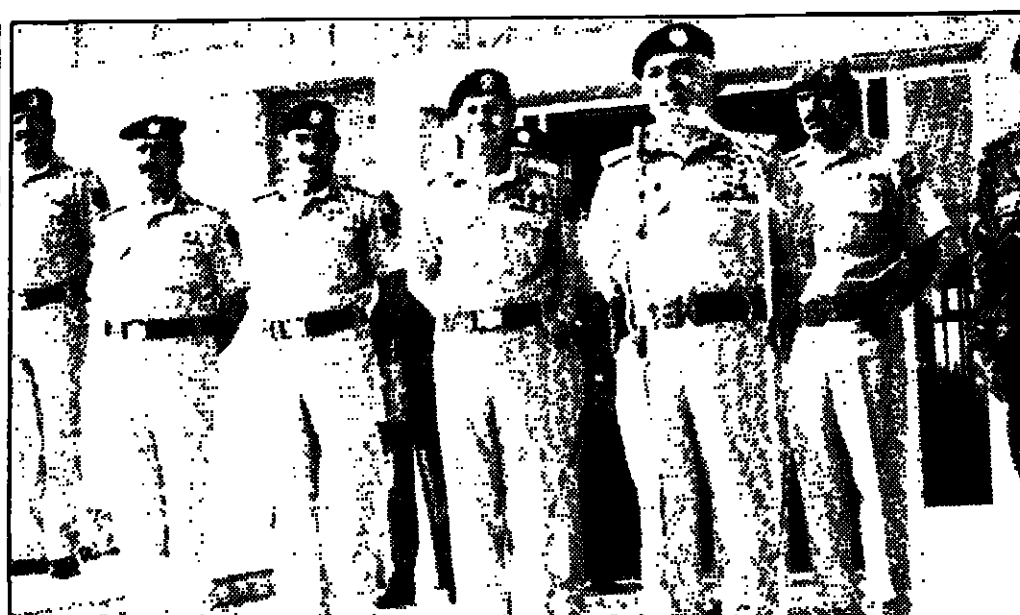
Police and soldiers with assault rifles continued to patrol the capital, although the heavy T-72 tanks that pounded the parliament building have been withdrawn. There were no major incidents reported overnight.

The leaders of the anti-Yeltsin resistance remained behind bars, although most of their followers were released after questioning. Prosecutors are trying to determine whether parliamentary leaders incited their armed supporters to storm the Moscow mayor's office, main TV complex and the Kremlin on Sunday.

The confirmed death toll from the two days of violence was 187, with 437 wounded, and more bodies likely to be found, city officials said.

The Itar-Tass news agency, citing sources in the prosecutor general's office whom it didn't identify, said headline leaders probably would be charged with treason. If convicted, the usual sentence is death.

The report named Alexander Rutskoi, Mr. Yeltsin's rebellious vice president, former Parliament Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov and five others. They all were in solitary confinement.



PEACEKEEPERS: His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Saturday bids farewell to the first batch of the second battalion of Jordanian peacekeeping forces leaving for Croatia. "You are leaving your homeland to join your brethren of the Arab army who have earlier left to offer their services," the King told the unit. "I hope you will always be the Arab nation's and Jordan's ambassadors... full of courage, patience and discipline." (Petra photo)

## Damascus alliance forms new intifada command with Hamas

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A meeting of an alliance of 10 Palestinian groups opposed to the Israeli-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) autonomy accord failed to agree on setting up an alternative leadership to the PLO, but decided to form a new command for the intifada in the occupied territories, a spokesman for one of the groups said Saturday.

Ibrahim Ghoshe, an Amman-based spokesman for the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas), said the alliance of "Islamists and nationalists" met in the Damascus area over the weekend to review the strategies of the alliance and "how to express the opposition of the Palestinian people to the so-called Gaza-Jericho accord."

The meeting sought to come up with a "united position on how to reflect the political positions of the various groups," he said.

The major decisions of the meeting included a resolution to replace the Unified Command of the Uprising with a new one led by opponents of the Israel-PLO autonomy deal and to convene a "national Palestinian conference," Mr. Ghoshe told the Jordan Times.

It will be the first time Hamas and other Islamist groups joined the command of the intifada, the unified command was dominated by Fateh, the mainstream PLO faction headed by Yasser Arafat, the PLO chairman, and the Muslim fundamentalist groups, vying for leadership of the Palestinians in the occupied territories with Fateh, stayed away from the command, which included leftist factions such as the

Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

"The unified command has been disbanded anyway," said Mr. Ghoshe, referring to the PLO's renunciation of "armed struggle," which, in Hamas parlance, includes the intifada.

The alliance's supporters in the occupied territories will boycott elections to a Palestinian self-rule authority, Mr. Ghoshe said.

The Hamas spokesman said his group favoured the proposed conference, expected to be held in one month, to come up with "a Palestinian leadership" to replace that of Mr. Arafat while the DFLP and PFLP objected to any distortion of PLO's status as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

A third opinion that emerged in the Damascus meeting was to proclaim immediately a Palestinian movement as a rival to the PLO. This idea, proposed by leftist Palestinian groups such as the PFLP-GC of Ahmad Jibril and others, was vetoed by the other two camps.

Palestinian analysts in Amman said that George Habash of the PFLP and Nayef Hawatmeh of the DFLP favoured working towards reforms within the PLO.

"What we are seeking is democratic reforms in the PLO without distorting its representative status," said a PFLP source in Amman.

In Damascus, Mr. Hawatmeh said: "We're keen to safeguard the PLO because we're part of it. We want to rebuild the Palestine National Council and the (PLO's) Executive Committee by democratic means."

DFLP officials said the

new leadership to press on with the uprising will comprise independents and representatives of "national, democratic and Islamic forces," including rebel leaders from Mr. Arafat's own Fatah group.

Mr. Ghoshe, whose group is not a faction of the PLO, said the meeting decided that none of the groups in the alliance would cooperate with any of the PLO institutions which supported the autonomy accord.

Palestinian sources noted that some of the groups' representatives in various PLO-affiliated organisations and institutions have not been attending meetings for more than a year, particularly after the Damascus alliance was set up in September 1992 with the avowed aim of wrecking the Middle East peace process.

According to Mr. Ghoshe, the proposed "Palestinian national conference" would bring together "a majority of the Palestinian people" who oppose the autonomy accord.

He indicated that Hamas favoured this approach since such a conference would have more representative status than the Damascus alliance and could serve as the launching pad for an alternative leadership to the PLO.

Mr. Ghoshe said the alliance also decided to launch "demonstrations and rallies inside and outside the occupied territories, including Jordan, Syria and Lebanon" to express the "Palestinian people's rejection of the Gaza-Jericho plan."

He said the alliance would resume its meeting in Damascus on Oct. 14, one day after the autonomy accord is expected to take effect with the start of negotiations on practical measures to be adopted to implement the agreement.

## Arafat said to have foiled murder plot

TUNIS (AP) — Yasser Arafat has foiled two plots to assassinate him for making peace with Israel in the last fortnight, including one blamed on Abu Nidal, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials said Saturday.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, sources in Tunis claimed that at least 10 bodyguards of Yasser Arafat, a close aide to the PLO chairman, and Ahmad Qureih, head of the PLO's economic department, were seized Thursday on charges of plotting to kill the two leaders.

Mr. Arafat was also marked for death, they said, and that more arrests were expected.

The PLO representative in Jordan, Tayeb Abdul Rahim, claimed there was an attempt two weeks ago to bomb Mr. Arafat's plane as he crisscrossed the Arab World seeking support for his landmark Sept. 13 peace accord with Israel.

Mr. Abdul Rahim, currently in Tunis, gave no details. But he told reporters: "Iran is financing this plot and providing training for elements who have been chosen for this purpose."

He said an "Arab state" — which he would not name but is widely considered to be Sudan — "is giving considerable help in this."

Iran opposes the peace plan. So do Libya and Sudan, a close ally of Iran. U.S. authorities last month branded Sudan a sponsor of international terrorism.

The reported crackdown came as Mr. Arafat is struggling to rally support for the peace accord within the splintered Palestinian leadership.

The 64-year-old PLO chief has in the past often sought to get out of trouble by making out he is in danger, and there was some speculation that the reported assassination plots could be such a move.

But a senior PLO security official in Tunis, where the PLO has its headquarters, said the arrests were a "preventive measure against possible turncoats."

He declined to elaborate, but said all those arrested were being interrogated by the PLO's security apparatus which polices the movement in Tunis separately from Tunisian authorities.

He and other officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, also said that five aides of Hani Al Hassan, a longtime Arafat associate who opposes the peace pact, were seized in Tunis Thursday.

The officials said Mr. Arafat swooped after Dr. Hassan visited Syria and met with Palestinian leader Ahmad Jibril, who has vowed to kill Mr. Arafat for making peace.

It was not clear whether

those arrests were linked to the roundup of PLO people in Tunis who allegedly had plotted to kill Mr. Arafat in Tunis in January 1991.

Abu Nidal split with Mr. Arafat in 1973, when the PLO leader began seeking a rapprochement with Israel.

Since then, Abu Nidal's renegade organisation has killed scores of Arafat aides in a feud that continues to this day.

The PLO insiders said that Abu Nidal's group, recently reported in Sudan, paid the would-be assassins up to \$30,000 each to kill the PLO leaders.

Tunisia's government-owned Al Sahafa daily reported Saturday that Muslim fundamentalist opposed to the peace accord recently met in a "non-Arab Islamic country" — a clear reference to Iran — to work out an assassination plan.

The daily said the plan was to recruit disaffected Palestinians in Mr. Arafat's security apparatus.

Al Sahafa said the operation was to be carried out by Mr. Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command. It is headquartered in Damascus, but has close ties to Iran.

The hardliners and fundamentalists consider the peace accord a betrayal because it only provides for limited self-rule for the Gaza Strip and the West Bank with no guarantee of an eventual independent Palestinian state.

Mr. Arafat's peace strategy has also alienated a number of top PLO leaders and he is striving to assert his authority before he begins talks with Israel on getting the peace accord working on the ground.

PLO officials said Mr. Arafat sent his elite Force 17 unit, which is responsible for his security, to arrest Mr. Hassan's men, who are currently held in the PLO prison in Hammam Al Shatt, a Tunis suburb.

Mr. Hassan and his elder brother, Khalid, are veteran members of Mr. Arafat's own Fatah faction, which dominates the PLO, and have been among his inner circle for 30 years.

Within the Palestinian hierarchy, they are among the staunchest opponents of the peace accord.

They left Tunis for Morocco before the peace accord was signed and could not be reached for comment.

The arrest of Mr. Hassan's people drew harsh criticism Friday night from Arafat supporters. They warned he was worsening the divisions within the PLO ahead of a crucial meeting Sunday of the 107-seat Central Council.

Fatah leaders have been meeting since Thursday in a bid to reassert their control of the PLO.

## Aldeed's son is a U.S. Marine

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Somali warlord Mohammad Farah Aideed has had even more contact with the U.S. military than most people know — his son is a U.S. Marine.

Hussen Farah, a corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves, was deployed to Somalia for two weeks at the start of Operation Restore Hope in December 1992 to serve two weeks as one of the Marines' few Somali-speaking interpreters. But now that his father is the U.S. forces' enemy number one in Mogadishu, Sgt. Farah is living at an undisclosed address in the Los Angeles area and quietly reporting to his reserve unit for drills once a month, a Marine Corps spokesman said.

Sgt. Farah has trained as an artilleryman after joining the Marine reserves in 1987, the spokesman said. He must do two weeks of active duty a year.

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